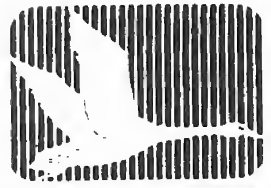


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# MARYLAND BIRDLIFE

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Cover: Distraction display by female Common Nighthawk, Beall Elementary School, Frostburg, Md., June 19, 1987. Photo by David Walbeck.



## OBSERVATIONS OF ROOF-NESTING KILLDEER AND COMMON NIGHTHAWKS IN FROSTBURG, MARYLAND

DAVID E. WALBECK

### INTRODUCTION

As natural habitats disappear, rooftops are increasingly used by nesting birds. These roofs are relatively inaccessible to mammalian predators and provide rare nesting substrates in some areas. Fisk (1978) listed twenty-two species of birds that have nested on flat roofs. Of those, two of the most widespread roof-nesting species are the Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) and the Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*).

The Killdeer has a clutch size of four (Harrison 1984) and an incubation length of twenty-four to twenty-eight days (Bent 1929). As the adults do not feed the young (Davis 1943), chicks hatched on roofs must jump to the ground shortly after hatching to obtain food. Demaree (1975) noted that "some chicks left the roof on the first day after hatching and the others on the second day."

Ankney and Hopkins (1985) found that nesting Killdeer did not show a statistically (chi-square test) significant preference for roofs based on the presence or absence of a parapet wall around the roof, the height of the roof, the roof surface (gravel vs. other), the pitch of the roof (flat or slight vs. moderate or steep), or the type of bitumen (asphalt or tar) on the roof. However, a high percentage of the roofs that they studied had the characteristics that Killdeer would be most likely to choose, which prevented the finding of statistically significant relationships. Their data suggest that Killdeer probably select low roofs that do not have parapet walls around them and that are flat or have a slight pitch. The roof surface and type of bitumen did not appear to be important. In addition, Kull (1977) showed that Killdeer select white nesting material, so they may also choose roofs with a light-colored surface.

In contrast to Killdeer, Common Nighthawks have a clutch size of two (Harrison 1984), an incubation length of sixteen to nineteen days (Dexter 1977), and the adults feed the young on the roof (Larson 1970). Instead of jumping off the roof, young Nighthawks can fly off the roof by sixteen (Bowles 1921) to twenty (Larson 1970) days of age.

I could not find any studies of habitat selection by roof-nesting Nighthawks. The roof substrate is mentioned in many reports, however, and while gravel is most

commonly reported as a nesting substrate, slag (Dexter 1956), tarpaper (Larson 1970), and cinders (Parks 1946) have also been used.

The purpose of this study was to locate nests, monitor incubation and fledging periods, and evaluate habitat selection by roof-nesting Killdeer and Common Nighthawks. The roof parameters studied were the presence or absence of a parapet wall and the height and surface area of the roof.

## METHODS

I found Killdeer and Nighthawk nests by conducting a survey of accessible flat roofs in Frostburg, Maryland from May 25 through August 4, 1987. Ten buildings on the campus of Frostburg State College were checked frequently (about every third day), and ten on-campus and off-campus buildings were checked infrequently. The presence or absence of a parapet wall and the height and surface area were recorded for each roof. Roofs with and without nests were compared using G-tests with Williams' correction (Sokal and Rohlf 1981) to examine habitat selection by the two species.

## RESULTS

Thirty-seven roofs on seventeen buildings were checked frequently enough to determine whether roof-nesting occurred on those roofs during the study period. Roofs that were checked only once or twice and that did not have nesting birds (four roofs on three buildings) were eliminated from the analyses. Thirty-six of the roofs had gravel surfaces and one had an aluminum surface.

### *Killdeer*

Roof-nesting Killdeer were found on six roofs on six different buildings. The first Killdeer nest was found on a roof at Beall High School. It contained four eggs on June 18 and was empty on July 2.

Three Killdeer chicks were seen on the roof of the Fine Arts Building on June 21. By June 25, these chicks were not on the roof.

On June 22, I found another nest containing four Killdeer eggs on a roof of the Stangle Service Building. An adult was incubating the eggs on June 26, but by July 1 only one, presumably infertile, egg remained.

Four eggs were also found in a Killdeer nest on a roof of Compton Hall on June 26. Three dead chicks were discovered on the Compton Hall roof on July 3, one of which appeared to have been dead longer than the other two and may have been from a previous clutch (adult Killdeer was giving distraction displays at the base of and on the roof of this building during early May).

Another Killdeer nest containing four eggs was discovered on the roof of Faith Independent Baptist Church on July 7. Although most of the gravel on the roof was dark, the nest itself was made of light-colored gravel which must have been placed there by the adults (Figure 1). On July 8 and July 9 the nest still contained four eggs, but by July 14 three of the eggs had hatched. One parent incubated the remaining egg (which never hatched), while two chicks ran around the roof and the third chick huddled near the nest. Only two chicks remained on the roof on July 15,



Fig. 1. Killdeer nest of light-colored gravel.

and both of them were caught and banded. After being banded, the two chicks jumped safely off the roof, which was 10 ft. above the ground. They were then placed back on the roof and observed from a distance with binoculars. Within five minutes, the chicks had jumped off the roof again, apparently having been urged to do so by the calls of a parent.

The sixth Killdeer family was found in a courtyard at Frost Elementary School on July 13. Two flightless young were trapped in the grass-covered courtyard, and I assumed that they had been hatched on the roof. I found a possible nesting depression in the gravel on the roof, but no unhatched eggs that would have confirmed my assumption. Other hatchlings had probably jumped off the roof to the exterior of the building. Both chicks were still in the courtyard and were banded on July 23. One chick was found outside of the school on July 30, but the other chick did not leave the courtyard until August 6 or 7.

Overall, Killdeer seemed to select roofs that did not have parapet walls and that were less than 33 ft. above the ground (Table 1). Unfortunately, thirteen of the fourteen roofs without parapet walls were also less than 33 ft. high, so it could not be determined if one of these factors was more important than the other. The Killdeer did not appear to select roofs according to their surface area (Table 1).

Table 1. Comparisons of roofs with and without Killdeer nests during the summer of 1987. G is the value obtained when the data were analyzed with the G-test with Williams' correction to determine if roofs were selected independently of roof characteristics.

Variable	Number of roofs		G	P*
	with nest	without nest		
Perimeter				
parapet wall	0	23	12.514	$P < 0.001$
other	6	8		
Height (ft.)				
10-33	6	16	6.439	$P < 0.025$
33-66	0	15		
Surface Area (ft <sup>2</sup> )				
140-7000	2	17	0.868	$P \geq 0.25$
7000-22600	4	14		

\*The significance level  $P$  was determined by comparing  $G$  to a chi-square for one degree of freedom table, and is considered statistically significant if  $P < 0.05$ .



*Common Nighthawks*

Two pairs of nighthawks nested on five roofs on five different buildings, none of which were also nested on by Killdeer. On June 12, I found a pair of Nighthawk chicks that I estimated were two to four days old on a roof at Beall Elementary School. I banded both chicks on June 16. On June 16, 19, and 24, the chicks were found (with one parent) at a different site each time. The chicks were able to make short flights by July 1 (21 to 23 days of age), and extended flights by one week later. The first time that the chicks were seen without their parents was July 8.

When these two chicks were 38 to 40 days old (July 18), I found two eggs being incubated by a female nighthawk on the roof of nearby Frampton Hall. I assumed that this nest was a second breeding attempt by the Beall Elementary School pair because of the dates and known territorial boundaries. This nest was deserted by July 31.

A second pair of nighthawks nested on Frederick Hall, Chesapeake Dining Hall, and Westminster Hall. The Frederick Hall nest was discovered on May 25, but had been deserted by June 2 because of flooding or avian predation (I could not find the eggs). The nest on Chesapeake Dining Hall was found on June 5 and was deserted on June 17 because of my attempts to capture and band the female. A female Nighthawk was found on Westminster Hall on June 25 and was not flushed. The nest contained one egg on June 26 and one newly hatched chick and one egg on July 13, an incubation period of seventeen days. By July 14, the second egg had hatched. I banded both chicks on July 23. Only one of the chicks was on the roof on July 31, and that chick's body was found on a driveway near Westminster Hall on August 4. The chick had been run over by a car, but it may have been dead already.

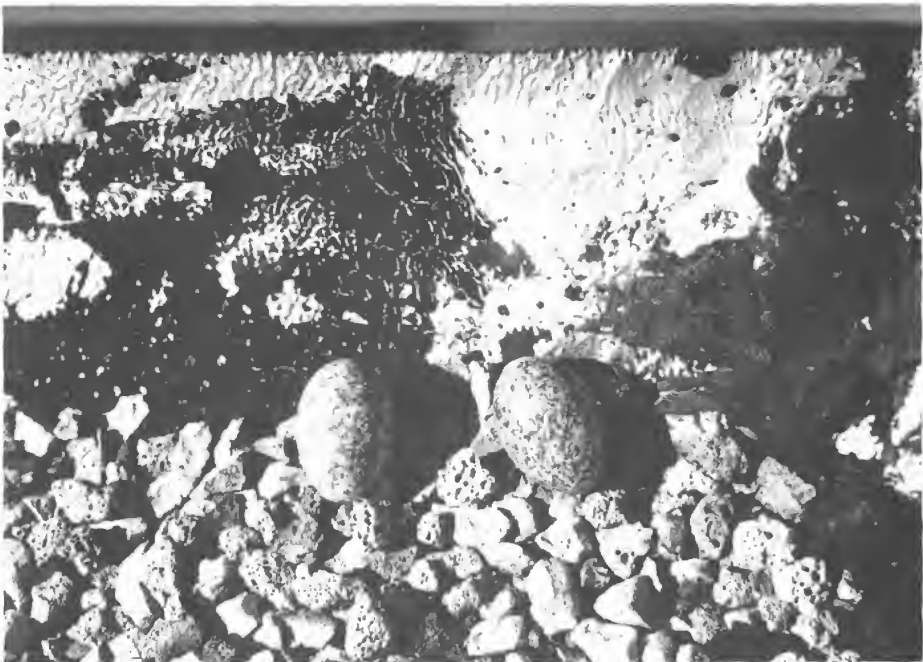


Fig. 2. Nighthawk nest on Chesapeake Dining Hall, June 5, 1987.

Unlike Killdeer, Common Nighthawks nested only on roofs with parapet walls and did not select roofs according to their height (Table 2). Nighthawks also nested on large roofs more than small roofs (Table 2). Only 11 of the 18 large roofs and 23 roofs with parapet walls had both features. One pair of Nighthawks nested on three gravel roofs, but they avoided the fourth flat roof within their territory — the one aluminum roof.

**Table 2. Comparisons of roofs with and without Nighthawk nests during the summer of 1987. G is the value obtained when the data were analyzed with the G-test with Williams' correction to determine if roofs were selected independently of roof characteristics.**

Variable	Number of roofs		G	P*
	with nest	without nest		
Perimeter				
parapet wall	5	18		
other	0	14	4.699	$P < 0.05$
Height (ft.)				
10-33	2	20		
33-66	3	12	0.804	$P > 0.25$
Surface Area (ft <sup>2</sup> )				
140-7000	0	19		
7000-22600	5	13	7.292	$P < 0.01$

\*The significance level  $P$  was determined by comparing  $G$  to a chi-square for one degree of freedom table, and is considered statistically significant if  $P < 0.05$ .

## DISCUSSION

This study showed that Killdeer apparently select low roofs without parapet walls for nesting. These roof parameters allow chicks to leave the roof and find food before they can fly. Chicks on Compton Hall may even have starved to death because they would not jump off the roof, which was the highest roof with a Killdeer nest. It was also one of only three roofs with sloping sides around the flat top, and the only one of the three that was used for nesting.

The Killdeer nest on Faith Independent Baptist Church strengthens the existing evidence for the selection of light-colored nesting material by Killdeer (see Kull 1977). Light-colored nests may provide both heat dissipation and camouflage for the eggs and chicks. As a light-colored nest was found on a dark-colored roof, however, Killdeer apparently do not select light-colored roofs over dark-colored roofs for nesting.

Another habitat variable that could be studied in relation to Killdeer nesting is the distance to a grassy area. These areas would provide food for newly hatched chicks, and their availability may be part of the roof selection process.

Two pairs of Common Nighthawks were shown to select roofs surrounded by parapet walls. These walls may prevent chicks from falling off roofs before they

can fly, or they may provide shade for the eggs, incubating adult, and chicks. All of the nests were within 0.5 m of a wall, but the amount of shading of the nest was not determined and needs further study.

The nighthawks may have selected large roofs because these roofs are more open than small roofs. Ground-nesting nighthawks usually nest in fairly open habitat (Gross 1940), so this openness may also be required for roof-nesting. Small roofs with parapet walls would be relatively closed.

All five of the nighthawk nests were on dark-colored roofs. Dark roofs would provide camouflage to the eggs and chicks, both of which are darker than those of Killdeer. White gravel is usually placed on roofs, and this gravel gets darker as dirt accumulates, so roofs that have older surfaces may be used more by nesting Nighthawks.

During roof checks on July 19 and 24, the two nighthawk chicks on Beall Elementary School ran away in opposite directions. Dyer (1977) interpreted this 'rapid chick separation' in Whip-poor-wills (*Caprimulgus vociferus*) as a defense mechanism improving the chances of at least one of the young surviving a predator's attack. Because the adjacent parapet wall limited the Nighthawk chicks' possible escape routes, however, this behavior may have occurred by chance and needs further study.

This research was conducted as an independent study course under the supervision of Dr. J. Edward Gates at the University of Maryland's Appalachian Environmental Laboratory. I thank the Maryland Ornithological Society for allowing me to use the Carey Run Sanctuary throughout the study period. I also thank the many administrators and custodians that made access to the roofs in Frostburg possible: John Willetts' supervision and assistance in the banding of chicks and Dr. Frank C. Rohwer's help with statistics were also greatly appreciated.

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## HAWK MIGRATION AT BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND

FLOYD E. HAYES AND WILLIAM K. HAYES

Several vantage points in Maryland are known for their concentrations of migrating raptors. Although much information exists on the relative abundance of raptors passing through these locations, much remains to be learned about the patterns of hawk migration throughout Maryland. In this paper we report our observations on the relative abundance of hawks migrating through Beltsville, Prince Georges County, Maryland, and compare our observations with those at other localities in Maryland.

### METHODS

From 1975 through 1982, we spent hundreds of hours on the roof of our home at 11208 Montgomery Road in Beltsville. Although the house was situated on the top of a slight ridge running from north to south, visibility was restricted because of the surrounding treetops (mostly *Quercus*). Our observations thus represent only a small sample of the hawks migrating through the Beltsville area. In general our observations were random and opportunistic; only during the autums of 1976 and 1977 did we systematically record the time spent observing hawks (41.0 and 65.3 hours respectively).

The percent composition of each species was determined during spring and fall by dividing the number of each species observed by the total number of identified

hawks. To determine if one species was relatively more common during spring or fall when compared to the total number of hawks recorded, two sample chi-square tests (based on frequency data; Siegel 1956) were used for species with sufficient data.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The numbers of each of the 13 species recorded and percent composition during spring and fall are given in Table 1. Turkey Vulture, Red-shouldered Hawk and American Kestrel were proportionately more common in spring, whereas Broad-winged Hawk was proportionately more common in fall. No significant differences were found in the proportions of Osprey, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk and Red-tailed Hawk during spring and fall. The numbers recorded for Black Vulture, Rough-legged Hawk, Golden Eagle and Peregrine Falcon were insufficient for statistical analysis.

Table 1. Number and percent composition of raptors observed during spring (1975-1982) and autumn (1975-1980) at Beltsville, Maryland.

Species	Spring		Autumn		X <sup>2</sup>	P
	Total	%	Total	%		
Black Vulture	0	0.0	8	0.6	—	—
Turkey Vulture	44	18.7	97	7.0	35.64	0.00
Osprey	5	2.1	49	3.6	0.69	0.41
Northern Harrier	3	1.3	27	2.0	0.14	0.70
Sharp-shinned Hawk	62	26.4	347	25.2	0.42	0.52
Cooper's Hawk	4	1.7	12	0.9	0.82	0.37
Red-shouldered Hawk	13	5.5	14	1.0	23.58	0.00
Broad-winged Hawk	51	21.7	547	39.7	21.63	0.00
Red-tailed Hawk	16	6.8	128	9.3	0.87	0.35
Rough-legged Hawk	1	0.4	0	0.0	—	—
Golden Eagle	1	0.4	0	0.0	—	—
Eagle sp.	0	0.0	2	0.2	—	—
American Kestrel	35	14.9	146	10.6	4.16	0.04
Peregrin Falcon	0	0.0	1	0.1	—	—
unidentified	26	—	218	—	—	—
Totals: 13 species	261	1596				

We recorded 7.75 hawks per hour during the autumn of 1976, and 8.04 hawks per hour during the autumn of 1977. Although these averages are below those of several vantage points in Maryland, they are comparable with Sandy Point, and exceed the average number of hawks per hour recorded at Towson (Table 2). Our highest count recorded in one day was 261 on September 24, 1978.

Most of the migrating hawks flew toward the northeast in spring and toward the southwest in fall, suggesting that the migratory path of these birds was along the "Fall Line," between the Piedmont and Coastal Plain of Maryland.

Table 2. Autumn hawk migration at Beltsville, Maryland, compared with other sites in Maryland. Calculations are based on sums of previous reports. Numbers in the source column refer to references in the Literature Cited section.

Site	Number of hawks per hour	Source
Beltsville, Prince Georges Co.	7.9	this paper
Dan's Rock, Allegany Co.	12.5	6,8
Fort Smallwood, Anne Arundel Co.	33.6	7,9
Monument Knob, Washington/Frederick Co.	16.5	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
Roth Rock, Garrett Co.	26.0	4, 5
Sandy Point, Anne Arundel Co.	7.7	7
Sparks, Baltimore Co.	27.6	2, 4, 5, 6, 7
Towson, Baltimore Co.	4.5	3

This paper provides some quantitative data on the migration of hawks along the Fall Line of Maryland. Further studies are needed from a variety of Maryland localities in order to better understand the patterns of hawk migration within the state.

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## EURASIAN WIGEON IN BALTIMORE COUNTY

EIRIK A. T. BLOM

On March 15, 1988 Kye Jenkins found a Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*) at Loch Raven Reservoir in Baltimore County, Maryland. The following morning I found the bird and watched it from 9:40 to 10:30 a.m.

The wigeon was in a flock of birds that included about 300 American Coots (*Fulica americana*), 75 American Wigeons (*Anas americana*), 19 Redheads (*Aythya americana*), 3 Canvasbacks (*A. valisineria*), 2 Ring-necked Ducks (*A. collaris*), and 2 Mallards (*Anas platyrhynchos*).

The flock stayed together most of the time, feeding actively in shallow water. Most of the American Wigeons were males, and the few females did not seem attached to specific males. Sixteen of the Redheads were males.

I saw occasional agonistic encounters between male American Wigeons involving short chases. The causes of these encounters were not apparent. The Eurasian Wigeon was not seen to interact with the American Wigeons. It chased an American Coot that had surfaced nearby with something in its bill. The chase lasted less than three seconds and the coot did not relinquish its prize. About a dozen similar chases involving American Wigeons pursuing coots were noted, but none seemed successful.

The following notes were made at the time of the observation. The sky was mostly clear, the wind was NW at 10-15 m.p.h. The temperature was 40°-45° F. I was using 9 X 45 Bushnell binoculars and a Kowa TSN-4 telescope with a 40X eyepiece. The light was fair to excellent and the distance varied between 75 and 300 yards.

"A duck, indistinguishable in size and shape from American Wigeon. Head and neck almost entirely rusty red, paler on the rear of the neck, darkest around the eye. Forehead from base of bill up to front of crown buffy or golden yellow. Unlike similarly placed white stripe on head of American Wigeon it did not go onto the top of the head, and was not visible at all when the bird was facing straight away. The breast was salmony and lightly speckled. The back was medium or lead gray, very slightly darker on the scapulars. The tertials were blackish with bright white edges. The sides were gray, slightly paler than the back. The tail and undertail coverts were black. The rest of the underparts were white, but the only white showing on the bird while it was swimming was a block between the black undertail coverts and the gray sides. There was a thin white line along the interscapular region, similar in shape and placement to the white line on the side of a male Eurasian Green-winged Teal (*Anas crecca crecca*). None of the American Wigeons showed the same line. The bill was pale blue with a large black nail. The eyes were dark."

Additional comments on differences between this bird and the American Wigeon come from the notes submitted to the Maryland Ornithological Society Records Committee by Hank Kaestner and by Harvey and Marion Mudd, all of whom kindly made those notes available to me. Hank noted that the Eurasian Wigeon seemed to have a slightly smaller head and a thinner neck, giving it a more delicate appearance overall. Harvey and Marion noted the lack of a green patch

behind the eye that was present on the American Wigeons. The bird was last seen on April 2.

This is the third record of Eurasian Wigeon for Baltimore County. There have been numerous reports from the lower Eastern Shore over the years, most of them at Deal Island Wildlife Management area in Somerset County, and a scattering of reports from western shore counties.

1618 Somerville Road, Bel Air, Maryland 21014

## FIRST RECORD OF EURASIAN WIGEON IN CARROLL COUNTY

ERIKA WILSON

On March 10, 1985 Alex Hammer found an adult male Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*) at Piney Run Park in Carroll County, Maryland. It was last seen on April 2 by the author and M. I. Hawk at the same location. These notes were taken at the time of the last observation.

"Soft parts included a dark eye (did not contrast with head color), and a bright blue bill. The tip of the bill and the leg color were not discernible because of viewing distance. The head was immediately recognizable because of the straw gold-colored blaze extending from the upper mandible through the forehead, crown, and upper nape. It was in marked contrast to the bright rust face, cheeks, throat, and upper neck. The head was rounded, similar to that of American Wigeon (*Anas americana*). The breast was a paler, faded rust that extended up to the back along the lower neck and downward to the white belly. The upperparts were pale gray, lighter in overall tone than the backs of nearby American Wigeon. The flanks were pale and set off from the black undertail coverts and vent by a white vertical blaze."

The bird was first observed preening on a grassy bank at the edge of the lake. It subsequently began grazing on a lawn-like area between a farm house and the edge of the reservoir. Other species sharing the grassy area included 5 American Wigeon (*Anas americana*), 12 Mallards (*Anas platyrhynchos*), 3 Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis*), and 20 Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*). After about twenty minutes the Eurasian Wigeon flew, circled, and landed on the water just off the bank. In flight only the underparts could be observed; these were a uniform pale gray except for the white belly. The observations were made through a 20X and 40X Kowa TSN-2 telescope at a distance of about 1000 meters. The light was excellent, temperatures were mild, and the wind gusty.

After about twenty minutes we left the park and drove to the lane leading to the farm on the other side of the lake. From there we watched the bird for several minutes at a distance of about 500 meters, confirming the details of the earlier observations, but adding no new material.

Both observers are familiar with Eurasian Wigeon, the author from a period of residence in Great Britain, and M. I. Hawk from periods of residence in Europe. Both observers independently confirmed the details contained in this note.

1400 S. Barton St. #4, Arlington, VA 22204





## THE SEASON

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### FALL MIGRATION, August 1 - November 30, 1988

ROBERT F. RINGLER

The summer's drought continued into the fall, though there was some relief in the middle of the season. Precipitation was below normal throughout the period. August temperatures were still above normal. November was warmer than usual and many birds lingered later than normal.

In analyzing the relative lateness of a species' arrival or departure the medians listed in Table 1 are invaluable. By looking at the ten-year medians in particular, any observer can figure whether his or her particular sighting is normal or extraordinary. For most species a date within a week of the median is normal, within one to two weeks it is of particular interest, and beyond two weeks it is extraordinary. When an extraordinary date is recorded the observer should be especially careful in the identification.

*Observers:* George & Henry Armistead, Scott Atkinson, Chris Beaton, Anne Bishop, John Bjerke, Rick Blom, Larry Bonham, Jim Boxwell, David Brinker, Mike Bryan, George Chase, Martha Chestem, Patty Craig, David Czaplak, Lynn Davidson, Deanna Dawson (banding at PWRC), Margaret Donald (banding at Adventure Sanctuary), Sam Droege, Sam Dyke, Jeff Effinger, Howard Elitzak, Ethel Engle, Jane Farrell, Roberta Fletcher (reporting for Caroline County), Harold Fogleman, Jessie Fulton, Inez Glime, Greg Gough, Jim & Patricia Gruber (banding at Damsite), Alex Hammer, Dave Harvey, Marvin Hewitt, David Holmes, Kye Jenkins, George Jett, Hank Kaestner, Greg Kearns, Ray Kiddy, Dennis Kirkwood, Alicia Knotts, Nancy Magnusson, Woody Martin, Bob & Pat Melville (banding at Bristol), Anne Moretti, Dotty Mumford, Paul Nistico, Michael & Paul O'Brien, Peter Osenton, Paul Pisano, Fran Pope (banding at Broadford Run with Connie Skipper), Kyle Rambo, Jan Reese, Joel Rhymer, Sue Ricciardi, Chan Robbins (banding at Laurel), Barbara Ross (banding at St. Timothy's School, Stevenson), Ron Runkles (banding at Laurel Grove), Bob Schutsky, W. Scudder, L. T. Short, Steve Simon, Teresa Simons, Connie Skipper (banding at Broadford Run with Fran Pope), Jo Solem (reporting for Howard County), Paul Spitzer, Jim Stasz, Chris Swarth, Charles Swift, Sallie Thayer (banding at Mt. Nebo), Mary Twigg, Charles Vaughn, Mark Vekasy, David Walbeck, Robert Warfield, Joy Wheeler, Tony White, Hal Wierenga, Jim Wilkinson, Erika Wilson, Mark Wright, Ben Yokel. Banders are acknowledged here but names of only the banding stations will be found in the text.

*Locations* (with counties in parentheses): Adventure Sanctuary (Montgomery), Assateague (Worcester), Banner's Overlook (Allegany), Bellevue (Talbot), Bestpitch (Dorchester), Big Bay Marsh (Worcester), Bittering (Garrett), Blackwalnut Point

(Talbot), Blackwater NWR (Dorchester), Bristol (Anne Arundell), Broad Creek (Prince Georges), Broadford Reservoir (Garrett), Broadford Run (Garrett), Centennial Lake & Park (Howard), Conowingo (Harford unless stated otherwise), Courthouse Point WMA (Cecil), Cove Point (Calvert), Cuckold Point (Baltimore), Dameron (St. Marys), Damsite (Kent), Dan's Rock (Allegany), Deal Island WMA (Somerset), Deep Creek Lake (Garrett), Eastern Neck NWR (Kent), Elk Neck SP (Cecil), Elliott Island Road marshes (Dorchester), Elms WMA (St. Marys), Fairlee (Kent), Finzel Swamp (Garrett), Flag Ponds Park (Calvert), Fort Smallwood Park (Anne Arundell), Georgetown Reservoir (District of Columbia), God's Grace Point (Calvert), Green Manor Turf Farm (Howard), Green Ridge (Allegany), Hains Point (District of Columbia), Harford Glen (Harford), Hart - Miller Dredged Material Containment Facility (Baltimore), Herrington Manor SP (Garrett), Hodges Bar (Kent), Hooper Island (Dorchester), Horsehead Sanctuary (Queen Annes), Hughes Hollow (Montgomery), Irish Grove Sanctuary (Somerset), Jug Bay (Anne Arundell), Lake Elkhorn (Howard), Lake Kittamaquidi (Howard), Lake Needwood (Montgomery), Laurel Grove (St. Marys), Liberty Reservoir (Carroll unless stated otherwise), Lilypons (Frederick), Loch Raven Reservoir (Baltimore), Love Point (Queen Annes), McKeldin Area of Patapsco Valley State Park (Carroll), Merkle Wildlife Sanctuary (Prince Georges), Monument Knob (Washington), Morgan Run (Carroll), Mt. Nebo WMA (Garrett), Myrtle Grove WMA (Charles), New Design Road (Frederick), North Beach (Calvert), North Branch (Allegany), Oxon Hill (Prince Georges), Patuxent Naval Air Station (St. Marys), Patuxent Wildlife Research Center (Prince Georges), Pennyfield (Montgomery), Piney Run Park (Carroll), Pinto and Pinto Marsh (Allegany), Piscataway Creek and Park (Prince Georges), Point Lookout (St. Marys), Queen Anne (Queen Annes unless noted otherwise), Remington Farms (Kent), Ridgely (Caroline), Rising Sun (Cecil), Rock Hall (Kent), Rocky Gap SP (Allegany), Rodo Beach (St. Marys), Romancoke (Queen Annes), Sandy Point SP (Anne Arundell), Schooley Mill Park (Howard), Scotland Beach (St. Marys), Seneca (Montgomery), Sparrows Point (Baltimore), Stevenson (Baltimore), Summit Hall Turf Farm (Montgomery), Swan Point (Kent), Tanyard (Caroline), Tizzard Island (Worcester), Tower Gardens (Queen Annes), Triadelphia Reservoir (Howard unless noted otherwise), Trout Run Sewage Treatment Plant (Garrett), Tuckahoe SP (Caroline unless noted otherwise), University of Maryland Central Farm (Howard), Violet's Lock (Montgomery), Waldorf (Charles), Weverton (Washington), Worton Creek (Kent).

Abbreviations: DC = District of Columbia, NWR = National Wildlife Refuge, PNAS = Patuxent Naval Air Station, PWRC = Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, SP = State Park, U. of M. = University of Maryland, WMA = Wildlife Management Area, and a "+" after an observer's name indicates that there were two or more other observers.

*Loons.* The only reports of Red-throated Loons from the bay were 2 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 9 and 17 (Reese +) and 1 at PNAS on Nov. 6 (Rambo). More typical were the 300 Red-throateds off Assateague on Nov. 26 (O'Briens +). A Common Loon at Point Lookout on Aug. 8 (Jim and Bob Boxwell) was probably summering locally, and perhaps the 1 on Broadford Reservoir on Aug. 29 (Pope) was doing the same. Probable early migrants were 4 near Bellevue on Sept. 17 (Armistead +), but 13 on Triadelphia on Oct. 2 (Solem, Farrell) signaled the beginning of the bulk of the migration. Spitzer made several counts of loons on the lower Choptank River, with 60 on Oct. 6, 1300 on Oct. 31, and 523 on Nov. 23. Other notable numbers of Common Loons were 39 at Romancoke on Oct. 28 (Wright), 20 flying over Morgan Run on Oct. 29 (Wright), 40 at PNAS on Nov. 6 (Rambo), 120 at Eastern Neck on Nov. 9 and 135 off Swan Point on Nov. 14 (both J. Gruber), and an estimated 750 off North Beach on Nov. 23 (Stasz).

Table 1. Median Arrival and Departure Dates, Fall 1988

	Median Arrival 10-Yr. 1988		Median Departure 10-Yr. 1988	
Common Loon	10/7	10/7	-	-
Pied-billed Grebe	9/23	8/25	-	-
Horned Grebe	11/4	10/30	-	-
Double-crested Cormorant	8/16	7/29	11/4	11/5
American Bittern	10/22	10/23	-	-
Great Egret	7/28	8/1	10/17	10/20
Snowy Egret	7/30	7/30	10/14	10/10
Little Blue Heron	7/28	8/4	9/13	9/12
Green-backed Heron	-	-	10/6	10/9
Tundra Swan	11/10	10/30	-	-
Snow Goose	10/10	10/9	-	-
Canada Goose	9/23	9/29	-	-
Wood Duck	-	-	11/5	11/13
Green-winged Teal	9/4	9/4	-	-
Northern Pintail	10/1	9/11	-	-
Blue-winged Teal	8/20	8/14	10/13	10/13
Northern Shoveler	10/2	9/7	-	-
Gadwall	10/15	10/2	-	-
American Wigeon	9/28	9/22	-	-
Canvasback	11/2	10/31	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	10/24	10/19	-	-
Greater Scaup	11/1	10/29	-	-
Lesser Scaup	10/21	10/11	-	-
Oldsquaw	11/8	11/2	-	-
Black Scoter	10/19	10/9	-	-
Surf Scoter	10/20	10/15	-	-
White-winged Scoter	10/23	10/13	-	-
Common Goldeneye	11/8	11/2	-	-
Bufflehead	11/1	10/29	-	-
Hooded Merganser	11/10	10/30	-	-
Common Merganser	11/18	11/24	-	-
Red-breasted Merganser	11/12	11/2	-	-
Ruddy Duck	10/10	9/29	-	-
Osprey	8/23	8/11	10/24	10/26
Northern Harrier	9/9	8/21	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	9/12	9/14	-	-
Cooper's Hawk	9/19	9/13	-	-
Broad-winged Hawk	8/24	-	10/4	10/8
Rough-legged Hawk	11/10	11/1	-	-
American Kestrel	8/19	8/14	-	-
Merlin	9/23	9/23	-	-
Sora	9/5	8/28	-	-
American Coot	10/12	10/9	-	-
Black-bellied Plover	8/17	8/10	10/19	10/19
Lesser Golden-Plover	9/11	9/4	10/7	10/28
Semipalmated Plover	7/31	7/24	10/3	10/1
Greater Yellowlegs	7/22	7/21	11/7	11/10
Lesser Yellowlegs	7/17	7/10	10/27	10/18
Solitary Sandpiper	7/20	7/16	9/25	9/21
Spotted Sandpiper	7/16	7/12	10/4	9/30
Upland Sandpiper	8/4	7/30	8/25	-
Ruddy Turnstone	7/31	7/29	-	-
Sanderling	7/29	7/18	10/28	11/11

Table 1 (cont.). Median Arrival and Departure Dates, Fall 1988

	Median Arrival 10-Yr. 1988		Median Departure 10-Yr. 1988	
Semipalmated Sandpiper	7/24	7/22	10/5	9/29
Western Sandpiper	7/29	7/30	10/22	-
Least Sandpiper	7/15	7/16	10/8	9/29
White-rumped Sandpiper	8/19	8/24	10/19	-
Pectoral Sandpiper	7/25	7/24	10/27	11/6
Dunlin	10/7	10/7	11/13	11/11
Stilt Sandpiper	8/1	7/29	10/6	9/21
Short-billed Dowitcher	7/17	7/10	9/15	9/11
Common Snipe	9/16	9/24	-	-
American Woodcock	-	10/30	-	-
Laughing Gull	-	-	12/1	11/28
Bonaparte's Gull	11/3	11/1	-	-
Caspian Tern	7/24	7/16	10/16	10/18
Royal Tern	8/23	8/14	11/8	11/11
Common Tern	8/9	7/31	10/3	9/17
Forster's Tern	7/16	7/10	11/11	11/20
Least Tern	-	-	8/20	8/25
Black Tern	7/27	7/30	9/5	9/3
Black-billed Cuckoo	-	-	9/18	9/18
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	-	-	10/5	10/4
Common Nighthawk	8/21	8/19	9/18	10/7
Chimney Swift	-	-	10/10	10/15
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	-	-	9/26	9/22
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	9/29	10/1	-	-
Eastern Wood-Pewee	-	-	10/1	10/2
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	8/22	8/19	9/22	9/24
Acadian Flycatcher	-	-	9/16	9/17
Traill's Flycatcher	8/19	-	9/13	9/12
Least Flycatcher	8/22	8/21	9/25	9/21
Eastern Phoebe	-	-	10/26	11/27
Great Crested Flycatcher	-	-	9/13	9/15
Eastern Kingbird	-	-	9/11	9/11
Purple Martin	-	-	9/5	8/26
Tree Swallow	8/3	7/29	10/19	10/28
N. Rough-winged Swallow	7/25	-	10/3	10/4
Bank Swallow	7/16	7/13	9/14	9/3
Cliff Swallow	-	-	9/6	9/7
Barn Swallow	-	-	9/29	9/25
Red-breasted Nuthatch	9/11	9/21	-	-
Brown Creeper	10/1	9/25	-	-
House Wren	-	-	10/12	10/23
Winter Wren	10/3	9/30	-	-
Golden-crowned Kinglet	10/4	9/30	-	-
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	9/22	9/20	-	-
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	-	-	9/13	9/17
Veery	8/27	8/26	9/27	9/26
Gray-cheeked Thrush	9/20	9/14	10/9	10/9
Swainson's Thrush	9/4	9/5	10/15	10/15
Hermit Thrush	10/8	10/7	11/6	-
Wood Thrush	-	-	10/9	10/13
Gray Catbird	-	-	10/25	11/12
Brown Thrasher	-	-	10/12	10/11
Water Pipit	10/21	10/12	-	-

Table 1 (cont.). Median Arrival and Departure Dates, Fall 1988

	Median Arrival 10-Yr. 1988		Median Departure 10-Yr. 1988	
Cedar Waxwing	8/29	8/26	-	-
White-eyed Vireo	-	-	10/2	10/1
Solitary Vireo	9/25	9/22	10/18	10/21
Yellow-throated Vireo	-	-	9/14	9/12
Warbling Vireo	-	-	9/14	9/15
Philadelphia Vireo	9/12	9/11	9/28	-
Red-eyed Vireo	-	-	10/5	10/7
Blue-winged Warbler	8/19	8/19	9/14	9/11
Tennessee Warbler	8/29	8/31	10/9	10/13
Orange-crowned Warbler	10/9	10/19	10/31	-
Nashville Warbler	9/4	8/31	10/10	10/9
Northern Parula	-	-	10/4	9/29
Yellow Warbler	-	-	9/16	9/11
Chestnut-sided Warbler	8/23	8/21	9/25	9/21
Magnolia Warbler	8/26	8/25	10/11	10/7
Cape May Warbler	9/4	8/31	10/9	10/10
Black-throated Blue Warbler	9/1	8/30	10/11	10/12
Yellow-rumped Warbler	9/27	9/17	-	-
Black-throated Green Warbler	9/6	8/31	10/11	10/11
Blackburnian Warbler	8/25	8/26	9/24	9/23
Pine Warbler	-	-	10/6	10/8
Prairie Warbler	-	-	9/19	9/26
Palm Warbler	9/19	9/11	10/23	10/25
Bay-breasted Warbler	9/6	9/2	10/1	9/26
Blackpoll Warbler	9/12	9/9	10/8	10/10
Black-and-white Warbler	8/18	8/19	10/8	10/5
American Redstart	8/15	8/13	10/7	10/4
Worm-eating Warbler	-	-	9/7	9/10
Ovenbird	8/17	8/15	10/7	10/11
Northern Waterthrush	8/16	8/14	9/25	9/26
Louisiana Waterthrush	-	-	8/25	8/25
Kentucky Warbler	-	-	9/5	9/8
Connecticut Warbler	9/6	9/6	9/30	9/29
Mourning Warbler	8/25	8/22	9/24	9/27
Common Yellowthroat	-	-	10/18	10/28
Hooded Warbler	-	-	9/19	9/18
Wilson's Warbler	9/3	8/30	9/22	9/26
Canada Warbler	8/18	8/19	9/20	9/23
Scarlet Tanager	-	-	10/6	10/4
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	9/6	9/10	10/5	10/3
Blue Grosbeak	-	-	9/20	9/21
Indigo Bunting	-	-	10/9	10/6
American Tree Sparrow	11/20	11/14	-	-
Chipping Sparrow	-	-	11/3	10/31
Savannah Sparrow	9/22	9/28	11/4	-
Fox Sparrow	11/1	10/21	-	-
Lincoln's Sparrow	9/21	9/17	10/19	10/20
Swamp Sparrow	10/1	9/30	-	-
White-throated Sparrow	9/29	9/25	-	-
White-crowned Sparrow	10/12	10/6	-	-
Dark-eyed Junco	10/1	9/30	-	-
Snow Bunting	11/7	11/7	-	-
Bobolink	8/22	7/30	9/23	9/22



Table 1 (cont.). Median Arrival and Departure Dates, Fall 1988

	Median Arrival 10-Yr. 1988		Median Departure 10-Yr. 1988	
Rusty Blackbird	10/19	10/23	-	-
Orchard Oriole	-	-	8/27	8/28
Northern Oriole	-	-	9/14	9/28
Purple Finch	10/4	10/3	-	-

*Grebes.* The best counts of Pied-billed Grebes were 34 at Deal Island WMA, where the species nests, on Aug. 7 and 13 (M. O'Brien), 17 in DC on Sept. 17 (Czaplak), 48 at Violet's Lock from Oct. 4 through Nov. 9 (Bonham), 78 on the Potomac below Washington on Oct. 30 (Czaplak), 8 on Deep Creek Lake on Nov. 4 (Skipper), and 22 on Loch Raven on Nov. 10 (Simon). Early migrant Pied-billed Grebes were singles at Loch Raven on Aug. 9 (Simon), Oxon Hill on Aug. 13 (Nistico), and Piney Run on Aug. 25 (Wright). Exceptionally early were single Horned Grebes at Hart - Miller on Oct. 2 (Kaestner +) and in Montgomery County on Oct. 4 (Bonham). Other inland Horned Grebes were 3 at Loch Raven on Oct. 30 (Simon, Jenkins) and 7 at Triadelphia on Nov. 2 (Solem). Modest high counts were 65 at Swan Point on Nov. 14 (J. Gruber), 80 in DC on Nov. 16 (Czaplak), and 13 at PNAS on Nov. 18 (Bryan).

*Tubenoses, Gannets, Pelicans.* An impromptu pelagic trip off Ocean City on Aug. 21 yielded sightings of 1 Cory's Shearwater, 6 Audubon's Shearwaters and 208 Wilson's Storm-Petrels (Wierenga +). The first report of Northern Gannet was an immature at Ocean City on Oct. 10 (P. O'Brien); 500 were seen off Assateague on Nov. 26 (O'Briens +). Late sightings of Brown Pelicans were 26 at Ocean City on Oct. 10 (P. O'Brien), 2 lingering there on Nov. 12 (Davidson, Wierenga), and a final report of 1 off Assateague on Nov. 30 (Warfield).

*Cormorants, Frigatebird.* Early arrivals of Great Cormorants were 1 at Point Lookout on Sept. 17 (Pat Towell), 4 at North Beach on Oct. 2 (Stasz), and 1 immature at Ocean City on Oct. 6 (Bonham). In November there were 4 at Ocean City on the 1st and later (Tony White +) and on the Patuxent River there were 2 off God's Grace Point on the 25th (Stasz, Holmes). Inland reports of Double-crested Cormorants were 5 at Piney Run on Aug. 23 (Merrill Sumey +) and single birds in Howard County at Centennial Lake and Triadelphia from Aug. 24 through Sept. 17 (many observers). On the Patuxent River there were 18 Double-crests at Jug Bay on Oct. 12 (Mumford), 10 at Merkle on Oct. 23 (Rhymer), and 27 at God's Grace Point on Nov. 25 (Stasz, Holmes). On the bay high cormorant counts were 100 at Point Lookout on Sept. 6 (M. O'Brien), 400 at Cove Point on Sept. 11 (Stasz), 100 at Blackwalnut Point on Sept. 11 with 4 remaining on Nov. 6 (Reese +), and 130 at Swan Point on Oct. 5 (J. Gruber). In DC there were 40 cormorants on Oct. 22 and a final 6 on Nov. 2 (Czaplak). At Ocean City there were 1400 resting on the flats on Nov. 6 (Ringler +). Quite remarkable was the adult male Magnificent Frigatebird photographed in DC on the Potomac River off Alexandria on Oct. 3 (Rodney Coggin +). Details will be published separately.

*Hérons, Ibises.* Single American Bitterns were at Centennial Lake on Oct. 6-18 (Chestem +), at Lilypons on Oct. 9 (Mike Milton), at PWRC on Oct. 23 (Osenton), at Irish Grove and at Deal Island WMA on Nov. 11 (Swift), at Bestpitch on Nov. 11 (Davidson, Wierenga), and on Assateague on Nov. 26 (O'Briens +). The only

reports of Least Bitterns were 1 at Hughes Hollow on Aug. 14 (M. O'Brien) and 2 very late birds at Jug Bay on Sept. 17 (Howard Elitzak +). Post-breeding dispersal of Great Blue Herons brought 27 to DC on Aug. 6 (Czaplak), 28 to Tower Gardens on Aug. 7 (Ricciardi), 10 to Loch Raven on Aug. 7 (Jenkins), 6 to Cumberland on Aug. 7 (Twigg), 9 to Triadelphia on Aug. 8 (Chestem), 55 to Piscataway on Aug. 20 (Czaplak) where 50 remained on Nov. 6 (Bjerke +), 125 to Conowingo on Oct. 22 (Blom), and 15 to Jug Bay on Nov. 23 (Mumford). Great Egrets were seen at Cumberland from Aug. 4 through Sept. 29 with a high of 6 on Aug. 5 (Twigg +). Reports of Great Egrets from the Piedmont were 6 at Loch Raven on Aug. 1-9 with 1 remaining through Oct. 1 (Simon, Jenkins +), 1 at Piney Run from Aug. 13 through Sept. 12 (Ringler +), 1 at Liberty Reservoir, Aug. 14-31 (Ringler +), 5 at Triadelphia on Aug. 23 (Chestem), 1 at Rising Sun from Sept. 24 through Oct. 2 (Fogleman), another in Howard County on Oct. 22 (Chestem), and 1 in Montgomery County on Nov. 4 (Bonham). On the Eastern Shore there were 16 Great Egrets at Blackwalnut Point on Aug. 14 (Reese), 38 at Remington Farms on Sept. 12 (Grubers), 1 at Elliott on Nov. 5 and 9 at Deal Island WMA on Nov. 6 (both Ringler +). In DC there were 5 Great Egrets on Sept. 17 (Czaplak), and the latest report was of 1 at Jug Bay on Nov. 13 (Hammer +). Snowy Egrets were not nearly so common, with the only inland report being of 1 at Triadelphia on Aug. 24-31 (Magnusson +). Other Snowies were 10 near Bellevue on Aug. 7 (Armistead), 4 at Broad Creek on the Potomac on Aug. 20 (Czaplak), 17 at Point Lookout on Aug. 25 (Boxwell), 7 at Blackwalnut Point on Aug. 28 (Reese), 5 at Tower Gardens on Oct. 1 (Ricciardi), and a late single at Blackwater on Nov. 11 (H. Armistead).

Among the sightings of Little Blue Herons were 4 immatures at Harford Glen on Aug. 1 (Kirkwood), 4 at The Elms on Aug. 7 (Boxwell), 2 at Blackwalnut Point on Aug. 14 (Reese), 1 adult near Bellevue on Aug. 21 (H. Armistead), 1 at Loch Raven, July 30 through Aug. 30 (Yokel +), 20 at West Ocean City on Aug. 26 (M. O'Brien, Gough), 6 at Ocean City and 6 on Assateague on Oct. 12 (Wright), and an exceptionally late bird in DC on Oct. 15 (Czaplak). Another Piedmont record of Tricolored Heron was made this year with 1 at Loch Raven from July 30 through Aug. 26 (Yokel +). Single birds have occurred in the Piedmont almost annually in recent years. Other single Tricoloreds were at Point Lookout on Aug. 2 (Boxwell), near Bellevue on Aug. 6 (Armistead), at Eastern Neck on Sept. 5 (J. Gruber), at Remington Farms on Sept. 12 (Grubers), on Assateague on Oct. 12 (Wright), at Rodo Beach on Oct. 22 (Boxwell), and at Deal Island WMA on Nov. 6 (Ringler, Walbeck). High counts of migrant Cattle Egrets were 130 at Blackwalnut Point on Aug. 19 with 1 late bird there on Oct. 30 (Reese), 38 at West Ocean City on Aug. 27 (Warfield), and 85 at Queen Anne on Sept. 21 (J. Gruber). An additional report from the summer was of 12 Cattle Egrets near Patapsco in Carroll County on July 9 (Jean Worthley +). Late Green-backed Herons that appeared in November were singles at Piscataway on the 5th (Nistico), at Piney Run the same day (Harvey), and in Howard County on the 11th (Farrell). The only inland Black-crowned Night-Heron was 1 at Triadelphia on Aug. 22 (Solem, Farrell); other reports were: 1 at Eastern Neck on Aug. 29 (J. Gruber), 30 at Conowingo on Oct. 22 (Blom), and 7 at Elliott on Nov. 6 (Armistead +). A Yellow-crowned Night-Heron at Rock Hall on Sept. 27 (J. Gruber) was a rarity there and the last one reported this fall. A few White Ibis, all immatures, wandered into the state this summer with 1 at Harford Glen on Aug. 1 (Kirkwood), 2 at Point Lookout on Aug. 2 with 1 through Aug. 10 and another on Sept. 4-6 (Boxwell +), and 1 at Snydersburg in Carroll County with a Great Egret on Aug. 14 (Ringler, Harvey). The only reports of Glossy Ibis were 2 at Point Lookout on Aug. 1-2, 1 remaining through the 8th (Boxwell), 1 at Triadelphia on Aug. 5 (Chestem), and 1 at The Elms on Aug. 7 (Boxwell).

**Swans.** Tundra Swans staged an incredibly early flight into the region this year beginning with 2 flocks of over 100 each flying over Loch Raven on Oct. 1 (Wheeler). The next sightings were on Oct. 29 with 64 at Dameron (Boxwell), 250 over St. Michaels (Reese), and 30 at Banner's Overlook (Kiddy). A massive flight occurred on the next day with big counts throughout the state: 101 at Banner's Overlook (Kiddy), 25 over Cuckold Point (Blom, P. O'Brien), 35 over Loch Raven (Simon, Jenkins), 250 at Damsite (Grubers), birds over Howard County (Chestem, Magnusson, Chase), 500 at Blackwalnut Point (Reese), and 84 over Waldorf (Jett). In most years the big flight of swans occurs during the period of Nov. 10-15. November concentrations of swans were 300 at Piscataway on the 5th (Nistico), 250 at Queen Anne on the 16th (P. Gruber), 1500 between Greensboro and Ridgely on the 19th (Reese), 5000 at Eastern Neck on the 19th (J. Gruber), and 450 at Hooper Island on the 26th (H. Armistead). At their usual strongholds were 65 Mute Swans at Eastern Neck on Sept. 4 (J. Gruber) and 285 in the Hooper's Island/Barren Island area on Nov. 6-26 (H. Armistead).

**Geese.** An adult Greater White-fronted Goose seen at Blackwater on Oct. 23-29 (H. Armistead +) was the only one this season. The only report of Snow Geese in September was of 6 at Fairlee on the 28th (Grubers). A Snow Goose at Broadford Run on Oct. 9 (Pope) was a rarity for Garrett County. Piedmont reports of Snows were 1 in Howard County on Oct. 30 (Chestem) and an immature at Piney Run on Nov. 26 (Ringler, Moretti). Western Shore Snows were 1 immature at PWRC on Oct. 7 (Laura Wagner), 2 at Merkle on Oct. 9 (Wilson) and 3 including 1 blue phase there on Oct. 23 (Rhymer), and an immature blue phase at Sandy Point on Nov. 19 (Wierenga +). Major concentrations of Snows on the Eastern Shore were 5000 at Queen Anne on Nov. 16 (P. Gruber), 4000 at Greensboro on Nov. 25 (Hewitt), 1200 blue phase and 370 white phase at Blackwater on Nov. 26 (H. Armistead), and 5000 near Showell in Worcester County on Nov. 29 (Warfield).

**Brant** are rare away from the coast and these records in the bay region are of interest: 50 near the east end of the Bay Bridge on Oct. 12 (Bjerke, White), 1 in DC near the Wilson Bridge on Nov. 18 (Gough), and 22 at Eastern Neck on Nov. 25 (Steve Wunderly). On the coast there were 220 Brant at Ocean City on Oct. 19 (Grubers) and 250 at Assateague on Nov. 12 (Davidson, Wierenga). It is difficult to detect the first true migrant Canada Geese because of the movements of the ever increasing flocks of locally nesting birds. This year's candidate for first migrants was a group of 5 over Cumberland on Sept. 22 (Twigg). Numbers at traditional wintering areas built up quickly with 3000 at Remington Farms on Sept. 28 (Grubers), 2000 at Merkle on Sept. 29 (Kearns) and 6000 there on Oct. 23 (Rhymer), 2600 near Bellevue on Oct. 7 (Armistead), 4500 at Blackwater on Oct. 23 (H. Armistead), 1500 near Oxford on Oct. 23 (Reese), 525 at Loch Raven on Nov. 11 (Simon, Jenkins) and 500 at Jug Bay on Nov. 23 (Mumford). Armistead also noted birds of the race *Branta canadensis hutchinsii* at Blackwater with 4 on Oct. 9, 5 on the 23rd, and 1 on Nov. 6. A Canada Goose hybrid with perhaps a Greater White-fronted Goose seen at Triadelphia on Aug. 22 (Chestem) was of uncertain origin and parentage.

**Puddle Ducks.** Certain escapes were the 3 Ruddy Shelducks seen at Merkle on Oct. 9 (Wilson) and the 2 there on Oct. 23 (Rhymer). High counts of Wood Ducks for the season were 40 at North Branch on Aug. 10 (Twigg), 24 at Trout Run on Aug. 24 (Pope), 95 at Pinto on Sept. 10 (Simons), 30 at Denton on Sept. 16 (Short), 23 at Liberty Reservoir on Sept. 18 (Blom), 300 at Jug Bay on Sept. 21 (Mumford, Beaton), 63 at PNAS on Oct. 7 (Rambo), 30 at Tuckahoe on Oct. 8 (Reese), 350 at

PWRC in mid October (Mike Haramis), 30 at Broadford Run on Oct. 19 (Skipper, Pope) and a late 25 in DC on Nov. 23 (Czaplak). Other late Wood Ducks were 2 on Deep Creek Lake on Nov. 11 (Ringler +), 1 at Hooper Island the same day (Armistead), 1 at Lake Needwood on Nov. 17 (Paul Pisano), 2 at Piney Run on Nov. 19 (Ringler) and 1 at Merkle on Nov. 20 (Rhymer). Early migrant Green-winged Teal in August were 1 at North Branch on the 13th (Twigg, Kiddy), 1 at Hart - Miller on the 14th (Kaestner +) and 17 at Deal Island WMA on the 26th (M. O'Brien, Gough). High counts of Green-wings were 300 at Blackwater on Oct. 23 and Nov. 26 (H. Armistead), 1600 at Hart - Miller on Oct. 30 (Ringler +), 100 at Tanyard on Nov. 2-11 (Engle), and 500 at Jug Bay on Nov. 23 (Mumford). High counts of American Black Ducks were 200 on the Potomac below Washington on Oct. 30 (Czaplak), 85 at Swan Point on Nov. 15 and 200 at Nicholl's Point on the Chester River on Nov. 18 (both J. Gruber), 100 on Triadelphia on Nov. 19 (Farrell) and 400 at Jug Bay on Nov. 23 (Mumford). High counts of Mallards were 300 at Hart - Miller on Aug. 21 (Ringler +), 200 at Jug Bay on Oct. 23 (Mumford), 520 in DC on Nov. 1 (Czaplak), 114 at Funkstown near Hagerstown on Nov. 8 (Walbeck), 160 at Loch Raven on Nov. 10 (Simon), and 239 on Deep Creek Lake on Nov. 16 (Skipper). August reports of Northern Pintails were 2 at Oxon Hill on the 13th (Nistico) and 53 at Deal Island WMA on the 26th (M. O'Brien, Gough). Interesting sightings inland were 1 at Triadelphia on Sept. 10 (Atkinson) and 2 at Smithsburg, Washington County on Nov. 13 (Ringler). High counts of pintails were 170 at Remington Farms on Sept. 28 (Grubers), 150 at Blackwater on Oct. 23 (H. Armistead), 25 at Merkle on Oct. 23 (Rhymer), 490 on the Potomac below Washington on Oct. 30 (Czaplak), and 23 at Cove Point on Nov. 25 (Stasz, Holmes).

Early migrant Blue-winged Teal included 8 at Tower Gardens on Aug. 7 (Ricciardi). Inland reports were 15 at Triadelphia on Aug. 25 (Chestem, Solem) and 11 at North Branch on Sept. 4 (Kiddy). By far the most Blue-wings recorded were 1000 at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 26 (M. O'Brien, Gough). A very good count of 430 was at Piscataway on Sept. 28 (Swarth). Late migrants were 1 at PNAS on Nov. 9 (Bryan), 3 at Lilypons on Nov. 12 (Gough) and 2 at Blackwater on Nov. 26 (Armisteads). Impressive numbers of Northern Shovelers stopped at Hart - Miller with numbers increasing from 13 on Aug. 21 to 125 on Aug. 28 and 400 on Oct. 16 (Ringler +). Other shovelers of note were 3 at North Branch on Aug. 23 (Simons), 1 at Horsehead Sanctuary on Aug. 27 (M. O'Brien, Gough), 1 at Piney Run on Sept. 3 (Ringler), 75 at Remington Farms on Sept. 28 (Grubers), and 90 on the Potomac below Washington on Oct. 30 (Czaplak). Early migrant Gadwalls were 2 at Remington Farms on Sept. 12 (Grubers) and 2 at Piney Run on Sept. 18 (Ringler); the high count was 200 at Piscataway on Nov. 12 (Nistico). A drake Eurasian Wigeon appeared again at Deal Island WMA on Oct. 10 and was seen at least through Nov. 5 (Ringler +). An American Wigeon in Howard County on Aug. 4 (Farrell) was extraordinary; other early migrants were 21 at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 26 (M. O'Brien, Gough), 1 at Sparrows Point on Aug. 28 (Ringler), 2 at Piney Run on Sept. 10 (Ringler), and 1 at Remington Farms on Sept. 12 (Grubers). The high wigeon counts at the major staging areas were 2500 at Deal Island WMA on Oct. 21 (Dyke) and 500 at Piscataway on Nov. 6 (Bjerke +). Other flocks of lesser numbers were 10 at North Branch on Sept. 25 (Kiddy, Simons), 50 at Remington Farms on Sept. 28 (Grubers), 18 at Piney Run on Oct. 29 (Wright), 20 at Lake Needwood on Nov. 17 (Pisano), 95 at Loch Raven on Nov. 18 (Simon), and 40 on Triadelphia on Nov. 19 (Farrell).

*Diving Ducks.* Summering Canvasbacks that lingered into the fall were 1 seen at Blackwalnut Point on Aug. 14 and Sept. 11 (Reese +) and 1 at Hart - Miller on



Aug. 21 (Ringler +). The first migrants were seen at both these locations on Oct. 23 (same observers). On Nov. 6 there were 2000 Canvasbacks at Piscataway (Bjerke +). The only Redheads reported were 1 at North Beach on Nov. 11 (Stasz), 1 on Centennial Lake on Nov. 25-29 (Chestem +), and 5 at Loch Raven on Nov. 27 (Simon, Jenkins). The first Ring-necked Ducks reported were 3 at Georgetown Reservoir on Sept. 24 (Elitzak) and 1 at Piney Run on Oct. 5 (Wright). High counts of Ring-necks for the season were 650 in DC on Oct. 26 (Czaplak), 201 at PWRC on Nov. 6 (Osenton), 100 on Lake Needwood on Nov. 17 (Pisano), 400 at Loch Raven on Nov. 24 (Simon, Jenkins) and 350 at Piscataway on Nov. 27 (Nistico). Inland reports of Greater Scaup were 1 at Loch Raven on Oct. 15 (Blom), 1 drake at Perryman on Oct. 22 (Kirkwood), 1 drake on Broadford Reservoir on Nov. 7 (Pope), and 4 females at Pinto on Nov. 20 (Simons). In addition there was 1 Greater at Hart - Miller on Sept. 5 (Ringler +) and 1 in DC on Oct. 8 (Czaplak); the largest flock was 4000 at Eastern Neck on Nov. 9 (J. Gruber). An early Lesser Scaup was in Howard County on Sept. 28 (Farrell) and the best inland counts were 31 on Centennial Lake on Nov. 1 (Farrell, Chestem) and 24 on Deep Creek Lake on Nov. 4 (Skipper). The major concentrations of Lessers were 1180 on the Potomac below Washington on Oct. 30 (Czaplak), 10,000 at Eastern Neck on Nov. 9 (J. Gruber), and 3000 at Piscataway on Nov. 12 (Nistico). At Hart - Miller the scaup flock built from 9000 on Oct. 16 to 10,000 on Oct. 23 and 20,000 on Oct. 30 (Ringler +). Though no attempt was made to separate all individuals by species the vast majority that could be identified were Lessers. Another flock of identified scaup numbering 1500 was off Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 30 (Reese).

Early migrant Oldsquaws were 1 in DC on Oct. 16 (Czaplak) and 3 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 23 (Reese). High counts were 250 at Eastern Neck on Nov. 5, 800 at Swan Point on Nov. 14 (both J. Gruber), 259 at PNAS on Nov. 18 (Bryan), and 500 on the bay south of Deale on Nov. 24 (Rhymer). Inland Oldsquaws were 1 at Piney Run on Nov. 18 (Ringler), 7 at Loch Raven on Nov. 18 (Simon), and 2 at Triadelphia on Nov. 19 (Solem, Farrell). Black Scoters in the bay were 11 near Bellevue on Sept. 18 (H. Armistead +), 2 at Swan Point on Oct. 5 (J. Gruber), 150 at Blackwalnut Point on Nov. 6 (Reese +), 5 at Sandy Point on Nov. 19 (Wierenga +), 200 on the bay south of Deale on Nov. 24 (Rhymer), 100 at Eastern Neck on Nov. 25 (J. Gruber) and 20 at Cove Point on Nov. 25 (Stasz, Holmes). At Ocean City there were 8 Black Scoters on Oct. 9 (Ringler +) and 500 on Oct. 19 (Grubers). On the Potomac, 5 Black Scoters off Hains Point were a rarity in DC (Czaplak). Surf Scoters, usually the most common scoter on the bay, numbered 15 near Bellevue on Oct. 9 (H. Armistead +), 5 at Worton Creek on Oct. 14 (J. Gruber), 40 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 23 (Reese), 15 at PNAS on Nov. 9-18 (Bryan), 60 at Hooper Island on Nov. 11 (H. Armistead), 200 at Eastern Neck on Nov. 25 (J. Gruber), and 450 at Cove Point on Nov. 25 (Stasz, Holmes). Rare inland was a Surf Scoter on Broadford Reservoir on Oct. 31 (Pope). Bay sightings of White-winged Scoters were 16 at Love Point on Sept. 28 and 4 at Eastern Neck on Oct. 4 (J. Gruber), 40 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 9 and 23 (Reese +), 7 at Romancoke on Oct. 28 (Wright), 3 at PNAS on Nov. 2 (Bryan), 10 at Hooper Island on Nov. 11 (H. Armistead), 800 at Eastern Neck on Nov. 25 (J. Gruber), and 75 at Cove Point on Nov. 25 (Stasz, Holmes). Inland there were 2 White-wings at Loch Raven on Oct. 30 (Simon, Jenkins) and 1 at Rocky Gap on Nov. 12 (Simons +). The earliest Common Goldeneye was 1 at Swan Point on Oct. 22 (J. Gruber) followed by 4 at Hart - Miller on Oct. 30 (Ringler +). The biggest flocks of goldeneyes were 200 at Eastern Neck on Nov. 13 (Bjerke +) and 450 at Hodges Bar on Nov. 14 (J. Gruber); the highest count inland was 18 at Piney Run on Nov. 18 (Ringler). Early Buffleheads were in Howard County on Oct. 11 (Farrell) and in Montgomery County on Oct. 27



(Bonham). Buffleheads made a particularly strong showing this fall, even inland, as high local counts were 100 on the Potomac below Washington on Oct. 30 (Czaplak), 300 at Piscataway on Nov. 6 (Bjerke +), 210 at Hooper Island on Nov. 11 (H. Armistead), 42 on Deep Creek Lake on Nov. 16 (Skipper), 155 at Piney Run on Nov. 18 (Ringler), 86 at Loch Raven on Nov. 18 (Simon), 170 at PNAS on Nov. 23 (Bryan), and 1000 at Eastern Neck on Nov. 25 (J. Gruber).

Early Hooded Mergansers were single birds at Loch Raven on Oct. 20 (Simon), PWRC on Oct. 24 (Lenny Jones), and Triadelphia on Oct. 30 (Chestem). High counts of Hoodeds were 34 at Eastern Neck on Nov. 13 (Bjerke +), 17 near Cooksville on Nov. 23 (Walbeck), 22 at Loch Raven on Nov. 24 (Simon, Jenkins), and 90 at Piney Run on Nov. 26 (Ringler). Common Mergansers were scarce in November with 1 at PNAS on the 6th (Rambo) and 4 at Hodges Bar on the 15th (J. Gruber) being the first, 36 at Blackwater on the 26th (Armisteads) being the most, and 3 at God's Grace Point on Nov. 25 (Stasz, Holmes) being at an unusual location. Red-breasted Mergansers also seemed scarce with the best report of 28 at Huntingfield, Kent County on Nov. 19 (J. Gruber). Ruddy Ducks, however, were very common and included 74 summering birds seen at Hart - Miller on Aug. 21 (Ringler +) and 1 at North Branch on Sept. 5 (Twigg) that may have summered locally also. First migrant Ruddies were 5 at Chestertown on Sept. 22 (Grubers) and 15 at Piney Run on Sept. 25 (Ringler). High local counts were 160 at Easton on Oct. 10 (Ringler +), 500 at Hart - Miller on Oct. 23 and 30 (Ringler +), 116 at Piney Run on Oct. 29 (Wright), 490 on the Potomac below Washington on Oct. 30 (Czaplak), 35 on Wilde Lake on Oct. 30 (Farrell), 2000 at Piscataway on Nov. 6 (Bjerke +), 33 at Denton on Nov. 23 (Hewitt) and 100 at PNAS on Nov. 23 (Bryan).

*Vultures.* Sightings of Black Vultures in Western Maryland were 4 migrants at Dan's Rock on Sept. 28 (Kiddy), 3 at Pinto Marsh on Oct. 8 (Simons), and 1 in Garret County near Deep Creek Lake on the extraordinary date of Nov. 26 (Dave Harvey, Karen Skuldt). The largest roosts of Black Vultures were 50 at Tuckahoe on Aug. 5 (Nuttle +), 29 at Elliocott City on Oct. 23 (Solem, Yrjo Collan), 45 at Conowingo on Oct. 26 with 125 Turkey Vultures (Blom), and 75 at Lake Linganore on Nov. 30 with 230 Turkey Vultures (Walbeck). Other roosts of Turkey Vultures numbered 40 near McDaniel on Sept. 18 (Reese +), 24 at Pinto Marsh on Oct. 7-8 (Twigg, Simons), and 38 at North Branch on Oct. 11 (Simons). Interesting reports of migrating Turkey Vultures included 1 at Hart - Miller on Oct. 23 (Ringler +), 12 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 23, and 57 there on Oct. 30 (both by Reese), and 5 over Deep Creek Lake on Nov. 11 (Ringler +).

*Eagles and Hawks.* See Table 2 for the results of the fall hawk watch at Monument Knob on South Mountain. Inland Ospreys included 2 at Liberty Reservoir on Aug. 4 with 1 through Oct. 5 (Wright +) and 1 at Loch Raven on Nov. 10 (Simon); the latest of the season was 1 at Eastern Neck on Nov. 13 (Bjerke +). Inland sightings of Bald Eagles have become so numerous that it is unnecessary to mention all of them now. The most interesting ones were an adult at Liberty Reservoir on Aug. 16 (Ringler), 2 south of Damascus on Nov. 6 (Janet Callahan), an immature at Rising Sun on Nov. 18 (Fogleman), and a near-adult at Piney Run on Nov. 26 + (Ringler +). The highest counts of Bald Eagles were 9 near Douglas Point, Charles County on Sept. 25 (Mike Donovan), 12 at Conowingo on Oct. 22 (Blom), 10 at Piscataway on Nov. 6 (Bjerke +), 21 in southern Dorchester County on Nov. 6 (H. Armistead +), and 4 at PNAS on Nov. 6 (Rambo). A Bald Eagle was observed carrying a corn stalk to a nest in Ridge, St. Marys County on Nov. 6 (Bjerke). August sightings of Northern Harriers were of single birds at Bittinger on

the 7th (Skipper), at Broadford Run on the 16th (Skipper, Pope), at PNAS on the 19th (Rambo), at Tower Gardens on the 23rd (Ricciardi), and at Goldsboro on the 27th (Effinger). Early migrating Sharp-shinned Hawks were 1 at Liberty Reservoir on Sept. 11 (Ringler), 1 at Piney Run on Sept. 12 (Wilkinson), 6 at Damsite on Sept. 23 (Grubers), and 15 at PNAS on Sept. 27 (Rambo). High counts of Sharp-shins were 19 at Dan's Rock on Sept. 28 and Oct. 1 (Kiddy), 22 at Tower Gardens on Oct. 1 (Ricciardi), 13 over PWRC on Oct. 4 (Rob Peeples), 18 at Elk Neck on Oct. 9 (Fogleman), 25 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 17 (Reese), and 14 at Hooper Island on Nov. 11 (H. Armistead). September sightings of migrant Cooper's Hawks were 1 at Piney Run on the 6th (Wilkinson), 1 at West Ocean City on the 10th (Warfield), and 1 at Tower Gardens on the 24th (Ricciardi). The 3 migrant Northern Goshawks reported were an adult in DC on Oct. 27 (Czaplak), 1 at Dan's Rock on Nov. 2 (Twigg), and an immature at Monument Knob on Nov. 3 (Table 2).

**Table 2. Hawk Migration at Monument Knob, Washington Monument State Park, Fall 1988**

Species	First	Last	Total	Best Days
Osprey	8/21	10/20	198	14 on 9/16, 13 on 9/5, 12 on 9/21 and 9/22
Bald Eagle	8/21	10/6	8	3 on 9/11
Northern Harrier	8/21	11/29	151	13 on 11/15, 8 on 9/3, 7 on 10/16 and 10/17
Sharp-shinned Hawk	8/21	11/28	2069	431 on 10/17, 270 on 10/16, 87 on 9/26
Cooper's Hawk	8/25	12/4	165	22 on 10/17, 18 on 10/3, 10 on 10/9
Northern Goshawk	11/3		1	
Red-shouldered Hawk	9/19	12/4	84	14 on 10/29, 11 on 10/24, 10 on 10/17
Broad-winged Hawk	8/21	10/5	5048	1730 on 9/18, 735 on 9/14, 573 on 9/21
Red-tailed Hawk	8/21	12/5	1558	198 on 11/17, 144 on 11/21, 116 on 10/29
Golden Eagle	10/16	12/4	7	
American Kestrel	8/25	10/29	99	18 on 9/10, 11 on 9/14, 6 on 9/26
Merlin	10/1	10/22	19	4 on 10/16, 3 on 10/5
Peregrine Falcon	9/5	10/7	8	2 on 10/6
Unidentified			242	
Total	8/18	12/10	9657	1775 on 9/18, 769 on 9/14, 615 on 9/21

In addition to Monument Knob (Table 2), where 95% of the Broad-winged Hawks passed during Sept. 14-26 (Shoemaker +), other high counts were 34 at Dan's Rock on Sept. 8 (Twigg), 180 in DC on Sept. 15 (Czaplak), 1000 leaving Wheaton Regional Park on Sept. 16 (Bill Rogers), 300 near Ellicott City on Sept. 22 (Bob Bogdan), 50 at St. Michaels on Sept. 22 (Reese), hundreds over Bozman and Wittman on Sept. 23 (Effinger, Dick Kleen), 75-100 over Harford Glen on Sept. 24 (Spike Updegrave), and 350 at Tower Gardens on Sept. 24 (Ricciardi). Late Broad-wings were 1 in Columbia on Oct. 10 (Atkinson), 1 at Germantown on Oct. 17 (Warfield) and 1 in Denton on Oct. 27 (Nuttie). Away from Monument Knob only modest numbers of Red-tailed Hawks were counted; 20 were at Banner's Overlook on Oct. 29 (Kiddy), 13 at Blackwalnut Point on Nov. 6 (Reese), and 13 at Hooper Island on Nov. 11 (H. Armistead). A partial albino Red-tail was near Germantown on Nov. 13 (Meg Farnum). Single light-phase Rough-legged Hawks were at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 30 (Reese), Dan's Rock on Nov. 1 (Twigg), Schooley Mill Park on Nov. 27 (Magnusson, Chase), and Frostburg on Nov. 29 (George Durner), while dark-phase birds were at Deal Island WMA on Nov. 6 (Ringler +) and Rocky Gap on Nov. 25 (Simons +).

Sightings of Golden Eagles were more numerous than ever with Monument Knob leading the way with 7 migrants (Shoemaker +). Others were an immature at Fletcher's Boathouse on the Potomac on Oct. 22 (White), possibly the same bird photographed that day by Czaplak at Georgetown Reservoir, an immature at Dan's Rock on Oct. 28 (Twigg), an immature at Fort Smallwood on Oct. 29 (Wierenga), 1 at Banner's Overlook on Oct. 29 and another the next day (Kiddy), an immature at Blackwater on Nov. 6 + (H. Armistead +), an immature at Conowingo on Nov. 8-17 (Blom +), 1 at Piscataway on Nov. 19-20 (Tim Hargrove), an adult at Blackwater on Nov. 24 (Czaplak), an adult at Rocky Gap on Nov. 25 (Hammer +), and an immature and an adult there the next day (Simons).

*Falcons.* Modest high counts of American Kestrels were 12 at American Corner on Aug. 14 (Engle), which probably included local breeders, and 18 migrants at Fort Smallwood on Oct. 8 (Davidson, Wierenga). Merlins were reported with much greater frequency than usual and from all over the state. In Western Maryland 1 was at Trout Run on Sept. 9 and 20 (Pope), 1 at Broadford Run on five dates from Sept. 16 through Oct. 15 (Skipper, Pope), 1 at Dan's Rock on Sept. 23 (Twigg), and an impressive seasonal total of 19 at Monument Knob. The only Piedmont report was of 1 at Lake Elkhorn on Oct. 16 (Dick Hegner). On the Western Shore of the bay 1 was at Point Lookout on Sept. 11 (Craig), 2 at Hart - Miller on Sept. 11 (Ringler +), 1 at Jug Bay on Oct. 1 (Kearns), 2 at Fort Smallwood on Oct. 8 and 1 at Sandy Point on Oct. 15 (both Davidson, Wierenga), and 1 near Crownsville on Oct. 16 (Walbeck, Vince Pinto); 1 was in DC on Nov. 20 (Czaplak). Eastern Shore Merlins were 1 at Tuckahoe on Oct. 1 (Nuttall +), 1 at Damsite on Oct. 1 and 8 (Grubers), 1 at Blackwater on Oct. 8 (Bjerke, White), and 3 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 17 (Reese). With so many breeding sites in Maryland Peregrine Falcons are becoming more common in most of the state. The long list of reports this fall includes 2 juveniles at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 13 (O'Briens), 1 at Hart - Miller on Aug. 21, Oct. 2 and Oct. 16 (Ringler +), 1 at Tower Gardens on Aug. 23 and Sept. 18 (Ricciardi), 1 at Loch Raven on Sept. 10 (Jenkins), 1 at Swan Creek on Sept. 13 (J. Gruber), 1 at Dan's Rock on Sept. 28 (Kiddy), 1 at Jug Bay on Oct. 1 (Kearns +), 1 at Triadelphia on Oct. 4 (Chestem) 2 over the 14th Street Bridge in DC on Oct. 5 (Mark Ribaud), 1 at Deal Island WMA on Oct. 6 (Bonham), 1 at the State Office Complex in Baltimore on Oct. 7 (Wilkinson), 1 at Fort Smallwood on Oct. 8 (Davidson, Wierenga), 1 immature at Trout Run on Oct. 9 (Pope), 1 at Blackwater on Oct. 9 (Fulton) and Nov. 26 (Davidson +), 1 at Ocean City, Oct. 10 through Nov. 26 (P. O'Brien +), 1 adult at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 17 (Reese), 1 adult on the FBI Building in DC on Oct. 19 (Roger Aaron), and 1 at Rockville on Nov. 25 (M. O'Brien). Still the best place to see migrating peregrines in the fall is Assateague. This year Scott Ward and his crew made 475 peregrine observations and captured 135 birds near the Maryland-Virginia state line during the period Sept. 18 through Oct. 20.

*Gallinaceous Birds.* Several Chukars were seen at McKee-Beshers WMA in September by John Williamson. These were certainly released birds. A young Ring-necked Pheasant at Laurel Grove on Sept. 4 (Runkles) was extraordinary there. Though most of the Wild Turkey sightings were made in Allegany County the following sightings, probably the result of DNR releases, were made: 1 in western Howard County in August (Susan Sullivan), 4 at Federalsburg on Oct. 27 (Glime), and 1 shot in northern Harford County on Nov. 18 (fide Kirkwood). In Allegany there were 30 on Route 51 on Sept. 2 (Simons), 23 on Green Ridge on Sept. 5 (Mark Weatherholt +), 18 at Dan's Rock on Sept. 28 (Kiddy) and 16 at Pinto Marsh on Nov. 13 and 19 (Simons). A pair of Northern Bobwhites with 5 downy young at St. Michaels on Oct. 29 (Reese) represents a very late nesting.

*Moorhens, Coots, Rails, Crane.* Interesting rail reports were 2 Clapper Rails on Hooper Island on Nov. 11 (H. Armistead), 1 King Rail at Kings Creek on Aug. 13 (Reese), and a Virginia Rail flushed from a soybean field at Bozman on Oct. 28 (Ernie Burns). A Sora was found dead at Marydel on Aug. 27 (Effinger), 1 was seen near Brighton Dam in Montgomery County on Aug. 29 (Peter Bugler), 1 immature was at Liberty Reservoir on Sept. 18 (Blom) and, at this species stronghold in the fall, an estimated 300 were at Jug Bay on Sept. 21 (Mumford, Beaton) and 10 were there on Oct. 26 (Mumford). Reports of Common Moorhens were few with 1 at Tanyard on Aug. 17 and 1 found dead there on Sept. 7 (Engle), 1 off Jones Point in DC on Sept. 16 (Gough), and 1 at PNAS on Oct. 5 (Bryan). Possible breeding American Coots were 1 at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 7 (M. O'Brien) and 5 at Smith Island on Aug. 10 (Nistico). Early migrant coots were 1 at Loch Raven on Aug. 26 (Simon) and 1 at Hart - Miller on Sept. 11 (Ringler +). High counts of coots were 1280 on the Potomac below Washington on Oct. 30 (Czaplak), 1000 at Piscataway on Nov. 6 (Bjerke +), 253 at Deep Creek Lake on Nov. 9 (Skipper), 400 at Loch Raven on Nov. 10 (Simon) and 280 in DC on Nov. 19 (Czaplak). The Sandhill Crane summering at Poolesville was seen through the entire fall period at the same horse farm it has been frequenting.

*Plovers.* The first reports of migrating Black-bellied Plovers were 1 at Big Bay Marsh on Aug. 2 (Brinker, Jay McConnaughey) and 18 at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 7 (M. O'Brien). Inland there were 5 Black-bellies at North Branch on Aug. 20 (Simons, Twigg, Kiddy), 3 at Green Manor Turf Farm on Sept. 25 (Blom), and up to 5 birds at Triadelphia on Oct. 2-5 (Solem, Farrell +). At Hooper Island on Nov. 11 were 2 late migrants (H. Armistead). The first report of Lesser Golden-Plover was 1 at North Branch on Aug. 19, and 3 were there the next day (Simons +). High counts of Golden Plovers for the season were 15 at Summit Hall Turf Farm on Sept. 24 (Elitzak +) and 62 at Hart - Miller on Oct. 2 (Kaestner +). In Garrett County there was 1 Golden at Trout Run on Sept. 16, 4 there on Oct. 4, and 1 at Herrington Manor on Oct. 28 (Pope). The last reported was at Summit Hall on Nov. 11 (Elitzak). High counts of Semipalmated Plovers were 230 at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 7 (M. O'Brien), 75 at Hart - Miller on Aug. 21 (Ringler +), and 18 at Point Lookout on Sept. 5 (Boxwell). Locally high counts of Killdeer were 101 at North Branch on Aug. 7 (Kiddy), 70 at Summit Hall on Aug. 27 (P. O'Brien), 31 at Easton on Aug. 28 (Reese), 60 at Trout Run on Aug. 28 and Oct. 4 (Pope), 105 at Remington Farms on Sept. 12 (Grubers), 33 at Cumberland on Oct. 27 (Twigg), 61 at Liberty Reservoir on Oct. 29 (Wright), 117 between Ridgely and Greensboro on Nov. 19 (Reese), and 145 near Blackwater on Nov. 26 (M. O'Brien +).

*Oystercatchers, Stilts, Avocets.* Bonham counted 34 American Oystercatchers at Ocean City for the high count late in the season. At Deal Island WMA the last Black-necked Stilts were 6 on Aug. 7 (M. O'Brien) and 4 on Aug. 20 (Davidson, Wierenga). The only American Avocets this fall were 1 at Big Bay Marsh on Aug. 4 (Walbeck, Vekasy), 4 at Hart - Miller on Sept. 5 (Kaestner +), and 1 at Deal Island WMA on Sept. 25 (Dyke).

*Tringine Sandpipers.* High counts of Greater Yellowlegs for the season were 300 at Remington Farms on Sept. 22 (Grubers), 17 at Conowingo on Oct. 5 (Blom), 12 at Elkton on Oct. 14 (Fogleman), and 25 at Jug Bay on Oct. 23 (Mumford). On Nov. 12 late Greaters were 1 at Lilypons (Gough), 1 near Bellevue (H. Armistead), and 2 in Baltimore (Wilkinson); the latest report of 2 at Greenbrier S.P. on Nov. 13 (Ringler) was unusual for this mountainside location. Lesser Yellowlegs numbered 37 at Point Lookout on Aug. 10 (Boxwell), 64 at Tizzard Island on Aug. 11 (Vekasy), 20 at



Piscataway on Aug. 20 (Bjerke +), 850 at Hart - Miller on Aug. 21 (Ringler +), 75 on Assateague on Aug. 26 (M. O'Brien, Gough), 150 at Tower Gardens on Sept. 3 (Ricciardi), 25 at Trout Run on Sept. 4 (Pope), 15 at North Branch on Sept. 5 (Twigg), and 175 at Remington Farms on Sept. 12 (Grubers); the last reported bird was at Deal Island WMA on Nov. 6 (Ringler +). Highs for Solitary Sandpiper were 12 at Triadelphia on Aug. 6 (Magnusson) and 10 at Trout Run, Aug. 23 through Sept. 6 (Pope). Migrant Willets included 3 at Point Lookout on Aug. 5 (Boxwell) and 1 there on the 13th (Jett), 3 at Hart - Miller on Aug. 14 (Kaestner +) and 2 there on the 21st (Ringler +), and 3 late birds at Deal Island WMA on Sept. 11 (Bjerke) and 2 late ones at PNAS on Oct. 26 (Bryan). High counts of Spotted Sandpipers were 10 at Triadelphia on Aug. 6 (Magnusson), 11 at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 7 (M. O'Brien), 20 at Hart - Miller on Aug. 21 (Ringler +), 11 at Easton on Aug. 28 (Reese), and 11 at Remington Farms on Sept. 12 (Grubers); single late birds were at Myrtle Grove WMA on Oct. 30 (Wierenga) and Denton on Nov. 3 (Hewitt).

*Curlews, Godwits, and Turnstones.* The only migrant Upland Sandpipers were 3 at American Corner in Caroline County on Aug. 7-8, 1 still there on the 14th (Engle), and 1 flying over Irish Grove on Aug. 27 (M. O'Brien). The only Whimbrels seen were 19 on Assateague near the Virginia line on Aug. 6 (Vekasy, Bill Danielson) and 5 at Tizzard Island on Aug. 14 (Brinker). Single Hudsonian Godwits were at Ocean City on Aug. 21 (Wierenga +) and Hart - Miller on Sept. 5 (Blom +); 9 were at Remington Farms on Sept. 22 (Grubers). Interesting reports of Ruddy Turnstones were 1 at North Branch on Aug. 7-10, 10 there on the 20th (Kiddy +), 2 at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 13 (M. O'Brien), 1 in DC on Aug. 20 (Czaplak), 20 at Hart - Miller on Aug. 21 (Ringler +), and 1 at Rock Hall on Sept. 5 (J. Gruber).

*Calidridine Sandpipers.* The only reports of Red Knots were 6 off Ocean City on Aug. 21 (Wierenga +), 3 at Hart - Miller on Aug. 21 and 4 there on the 28th (Ringler +), and 1 at Triadelphia on Aug. 27-30 (Magnusson +); this last is only the second inland record for the state. Inland Sanderlings were 11 at North Branch on Aug. 20, 1 there on Sept. 25 (Simons +), 1 at Triadelphia on Aug. 28-29 (Solem, Farrell), and 1 at Loch Raven on Oct. 14-16 (Simon). In DC there were 5 Sanderlings on Oct. 30 (Czaplak), and on the bay there were 4 at Point Lookout on Sept. 2 (Bjerke), 100 at Hart - Miller on Oct. 23 (Ringler +), 12 at Hooper Island on Nov. 11 and 10 on Nov. 26 (H. Armistead), and 7 at Flag Ponds on Nov. 25 (Stasz, Holmes). High counts of Semipalmated Sandpipers were 1000 at Hart - Miller on Aug. 14 (Kaestner +), 50 at Tower Gardens on Sept. 11 (Ricciardi), 100 at Remington Farms on Sept. 12 (Grubers), and 85 at Point Lookout on Sept. 12 (Boxwell). Inland Western Sandpipers were 1 at Trout Run on Aug. 12-19 (Pope) and 1 at Liberty Reservoir on Aug. 31 (Blom); 1 was at Broad Creek on Aug. 20 (Czaplak +). High counts of Westerns were 25 at Point Lookout on Aug. 27 (Davidson), 14 at Easton on Aug. 28 (Reese), 150 at Hart - Miller on Aug. 28 where 3 remained on Oct. 30 (Ringler +), and 12 at Tower Gardens on Sept. 3 (Ricciardi). Highs for Least Sandpipers were 195 at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 7 (M. O'Brien), 100 at Hart - Miller on Aug. 14 and 28 (Kaestner +), 18 at Easton on Aug. 28 (Reese), 34 at Point Lookout on Aug. 31 (Boxwell), 20 at Trout Run on Sept. 5-6 (Pope), 100 at Remington Farms on Sept. 12 (Grubers), and single late birds at Blackwater on Oct. 23 (H. Armistead) and Hart - Miller on Oct. 30 (Ringler +). White-rumped Sandpipers were reported more widely than usual, though the center of concentration continues to be Hart - Miller where the first was on Aug. 14 (Kaestner +), the high of 20 on Oct. 16, and the last 1 on Oct. 30 (Ringler +). The other reports were 1 at Sandy Point on Aug. 16 (M. O'Brien), 1 at Trout Run on Aug. 24 (Pope), 2 at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 25 (Czaplak), 2 at Tower Gardens on Sept. 11 (Ricciardi), 1 at Swan Point on Sept. 12



(J. Gruber), 3 at Point Lookout on Oct. 30 and 1 there the next day (Boxwell, Craig, Bishop). The high for Baird's Sandpipers was also at Hart - Miller with 15 on Aug. 28 (Ringler +); other reports were up to 3 at Trout Run from Aug. 20 through Sept. 7 (Pope), 4 at North Branch on Aug. 19-21 and single birds there from Aug. 18 through Sept. 5 (Simons +), and 1 at Summit Hall on Aug. 27-28 (O'Briens). The split migration of Pectoral Sandpipers, adults before juveniles, was evident at Hart - Miller where the peak counts were 200 on Aug. 14 (Kaestner +) and 150 on Oct. 16 (Ringler +) with considerably lesser numbers in between. The abundance of grassy mudflats at Deal Island WMA produced a record high count of Pecs with 900 on Aug. 13 (M. O'Brien). Other high counts were 35 at Trout Run on Sept. 4 and 25 (Pope), 17 in DC on Sept. 10 (Czaplak), 500 at Remington Farms on Sept. 22 (Grubers), 12 at Tower Gardens on Oct. 29 (Ricciardi), 10 at Liberty Reservoir on Oct. 29 (Wright), and 32 at Point Lookout on Oct. 31 (Boxwell). There was an unusual number of lingering Pecs reported in November, with 1 at Lilypons on the 5th (Davidson, Wierenga), 1 at Rocky Gap on the 5th (Twigg), 7 at Blackwater on the 6th (H. Armistead +), 9 at PWRC on the 8th (Martin, Osenton), 4 at Herrington Manor on the 11th (Ringler +), 2 at Summit Hall on the 11th (Elitzak), and 2 at Jug Bay on the 13th (Hammer, Pete Webb). The first Purple Sandpipers at Ocean City were 5 on Nov. 6 (Ringler +) and there were 39 on the 26th (Davidson +). The first Dunlins were 3 at Jug Bay on Sept. 21 (Kearns), and inland birds were 1 at Trout Run on Oct. 5-7 (Pope), 2 at Herrington Manor on Oct. 6 (Pope), 2 at Lilypons on Nov. 5 (Davidson, Wierenga) and 1 there the next day (Frank Schaff), and 5 at Deep Creek Lake on Nov. 11 (Ringler +). High Dunlin counts for the season were 20 in DC on Oct. 22 (Czaplak), 425 at Hart - Miller on Oct. 23 (Ringler +), 400 at Hooper Island on Nov. 11 (H. Armistead), and 600 at Blackwater on Nov. 24 (Czaplak). Other late Dunlins were 6 at Jug Bay on Nov. 9 (Mumford), 5 at Merkle on Nov. 20 (Rhymer), and 90 at Deal Island WMA on Nov. 26 (Armisteads). The superb shorebird conditions at Deal Island WMA also attracted an excellent total of 230 Stilt Sandpipers on Aug. 7 (M. O'Brien). Other reports were 1 at Point Lookout on Aug. 10 (Nistico), 1 at Trout Run from Aug. 19 through Sept. 19 and 12 on Aug. 20 (Pope), 4 near Berlin on Aug. 26 (M. O'Brien, Gough), 1 in DC on Sept. 10 (Czaplak), 1 at Remington Farms on Sept. 12 (Grubers), 19 at North Branch on Sept. 17 (Simons), 1 at Jug Bay on Sept. 21 (Mumford), 66 at Tower Gardens on Sept. 24 (Ricciardi), 4 at Hart - Miller on Oct. 2 (Kaestner +), and 12 at Blackwater on Oct. 10 (Ringler +). Both westernmost counties were rewarded with the first records of Buff-breasted Sandpiper. In Garrett there was 1 at Trout Run on Aug. 20-21 and 3 on Aug. 28-29 (Pope) and in Allegany there was 1 at North Branch on Aug. 21 and 29 (Simons +). At other locations where the species has occurred before there were 8 at Hart - Miller on Aug. 21 and 6 on Aug. 28 (Ringler +) and 4 at Summit Hall on Aug. 27 and 1 the next day (O'Briens). Single Ruffs were found at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 10 (Gough) and Hart - Miller on Aug. 28 (Stasz +).

*Dowitchers, Snipe, Woodcocks.* High counts of Short-billed Dowitchers were 23 at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 7 (M. O'Brien), 8 at Point Lookout on Aug. 10 (Nistico), 12 at North Branch on Aug. 20 (Simons, Twigg), 4 at Trout Run on Aug. 22-25 (Pope), 58 at Horsehead Sanctuary on Aug. 27 (M. O'Brien, Gough), and 30 at Tower Gardens on Sept. 3 (Ricciardi). Other inland reports of Short-bills were 1 at Triadelphia on Aug. 30 (Magnusson) and 1 at Lilypons on Sept. 11 (M. O'Brien); the latest was 1 at Hart - Miller on Oct. 2 (Kaestner +). Quite extraordinary were 27 early Long-billed Dowitchers at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 7 (M. O'Brien). Other reports were in the expected time period with 2 at Blackwater on Oct. 10 (Ringler +) and 23 there on Nov. 11 (H. Armistead), 15 at Deal Island WMA on Oct. 12 (Bjerke, White), and 1 there on Nov. 6 (Ringler +). The first Common Snipe of the

season was 1 at Trout Run on Aug. 20 (Pope) and the highest counts were 12 at Lilypons on Nov. 6 (Frank Schaff) and 100 at Jug Bay on Nov. 23 (Mumford). American Woodcocks were noted in migration more frequently than usual with 1 at Colora, Cecil County on Oct. 11 (Fogleman), 1 at Cumberland on Oct. 17 (Simons), 3 at Matapeake on Oct. 27 (J. Gruber), 1 banded at Finzel on Oct. 28 (Brinker +), 2 at Damsite on Oct. 30 (Grubers), 1 in DC on Oct. 31 (Czaplak), 2 at St. Michaels on Nov. 1 (Reese), 1 at Masonville on Nov. 12 (Wilkinson), 2 at Germantown on Nov. 20 (Warfield), and 1 that flew into a window at 15th and L Streets in Washington on Nov. 25 and was later released (Lola Oberman).

*Phalaropes.* There was another good flight of Wilson's Phalaropes this fall, continuing the trend of recent years. At Deal Island WMA there were 4 on Aug. 7 (M. O'Brien) and 11 on Aug. 20 (Davidson, Wierenga), 4 were at Broad Creek on Aug. 20 (Czaplak, Bjerke +), 20 at Hart - Miller on Aug. 21-28 (Ringler +), 1 at Trout Run on Sept. 5-8 (Pope), 18 at Tower Gardens on Sept. 11, a very late 1 there on Oct. 29 (Ricciardi), and 2 in DC on Sept. 17 (Czaplak). On an Aug. 21 pelagic trip 5 Red-necked Phalaropes were seen off Ocean City (Wierenga +) and another was at Hart - Miller on Aug. 28 (Ringler +). Completing the hat trick of phalaropes at Hart - Miller on the latter date was a Red Phalarope which was present from Aug. 14 through Oct. 2 (Kaestner +).

*Jaegers, Gulls.* Unidentified Jaegers seen this fall were 1 over the Potomac in DC on Sept. 22 (Czaplak), 1 off Assateague on Oct. 9 (Ringler +), and another there on Nov. 26 (P. O'Brien +). High counts of Laughing Gulls were 500 at Tower Gardens on Aug. 7 (Ricciardi), 350 at Eastern Neck on Aug. 22 (J. Gruber), 1000 at Hart - Miller on Aug. 28 (Ringler +), 2000 near Chestertown on Sept. 22 (Grubers) and 1500 at Ocean City on the late date of Nov. 26 (Davidson +). On the major rivers there were 78 in DC on Sept. 17 and 70 on Nov. 20 (Czaplak), and a late 1 at Conowingo on Nov. 30 (Blom). Inland it was the best season ever for Laughing Gulls. Howard County received the bulk of the birds with 300 at Green Manor Turf Farm on Sept. 25 (Ringler, Chestem) and 187 on Centennial Lake on Oct. 15 (Solem, Farrell); the last 5 were there on Oct. 31 (Swift). In Carroll County there were 12 in a field at Winfield on Oct. 22 (Ringler +), 3 at Piney Run on Oct. 29 (Blom +), and a late 1 there on Nov. 19 (Ringler +). The only Franklin's Gull of the season was at Hart - Miller on Aug. 28 (Stasz +). A Bonaparte's Gull at Swan Point on Sept. 12 (J. Gruber) may have summered locally. Migrant Bonaparte's were 2 at Conowingo on Oct. 22, 150 there on Nov. 30 (Blom), 22 at Hart - Miller on Oct. 30 (Ringler +), 2 at Jug Bay on Nov. 2 (Mumford), 25 at Piscataway on Nov. 5 (Nistico), 10 at Berlin on Nov. 6 (Ringler +), and 3 at Hooper Island on Nov. 26 (Armisteads). Inland Bonies were 4 at Broadford Reservoir on Nov. 19 (Pope); 1 at Piney Run on Nov. 19 (Ringler +), 20 there on Nov. 23 (Wright), and 1 at Rocky Gap on Nov. 20 (Twigg) and Nov. 27 (Simons, Kiddy).

Highest estimates of Ring-billed Gulls were 2500 at Hart - Miller on Aug. 28 (Ringler +), 10,000 in fields near Chestertown on Sept. 22 (Grubers), 900 at Black-walnut Point on Oct. 16 (Reese), 950 in DC on Nov. 20 (Czaplak), and 7500 at Conowingo on Nov. 30 (Blom). In Allegany County there were 9 Ring-bills at North Branch on Oct. 11 (Simons) and an immature Herring Gull at Cumberland on Nov. 3 (Twigg). An adult Lesser Black-backed Gull may have been wandering around St. Marys County as sightings were made at Rodo Beach on Sept. 18 (Pat Towell), Point Lookout on Oct. 2 (P. O'Brien +), and at the mouth of St. Jerome's Creek on Nov. 13 (Boxwell, Craig, Bishop). The Hains Point adult returned for its ninth year on Nov. 17 (Czaplak) and another adult was at Conowingo on Nov. 30 (Blom). High

counts of Great Black-backed Gulls were 500 at Hart - Miller on Aug. 28 (Ringler +) and 450 at Conowingo on Nov. 30 (Blom). A rarity in the bay was an immature Black-legged Kittiwake on the Choptank River near Bellevue on Oct. 9 (H. Armistead +).

*Terns, Skimmers.* As usual Hart - Miller was the stronghold for Caspian Terns in the fall with 300 on Aug. 28 being the peak (Ringler +). Inland there were 5 Caspians at Loch Raven on Aug. 30 and 4 on Oct. 1 (Simon). Late birds were 3 at Blackwater on Oct. 23 (H. Armistead), 6 at Hart - Miller on Oct. 30 (Ringler +), 1 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 30 (Reese), and 1 at Ocean City on Nov. 6 (Ringler). High counts of Royal Terns were 300 at Point Lookout on Sept. 6 (M. O'Brien), 122 at North Beach on Sept. 25 (Stasz), and 200 at Ocean City on Nov. 11 (Bonham). In the bay, 2 Royals at Swan Creek on Sept. 13 (J. Gruber) were rather far up the bay; others were 12 at Romancoke on Oct. 28 (Wright) and 20 at Blackwalnut Point on Nov. 6 (Reese). Late birds were 1 at Hooper Island on Nov. 11 (H. Armistead) and 3 at Ocean City on Nov. 26 (Davidson +). A single Sandwich Tern was seen at Scotland Beach on Aug. 10 (Nistico) and also nearby at Point Lookout on Aug. 13 (Jett) and Aug. 27 (Davidson); 2 were there on Sept. 2 (Boxwell).

Inland reports of Common Terns were 6 at Loch Raven on Aug. 5 (Simon), 1 at North Branch on Aug. 20 (Simons, Twigg, Kiddy), and 1 at Triadelphia on Aug. 21 (Farrell). High counts of Common Terns were 225 at Scotland Beach on Aug. 7 (Boxwell, Bishop), 60 at Hart - Miller on Aug. 28 (Ringler +), and 1000 at Point Lookout on Sept. 6 (M. O'Brien). Other reports of note were 22 in DC on Sept. 17 (Czaplak), 3 at Swan Creek on Sept. 13 (J. Gruber), 5 at North Beach on Oct. 2 (Stasz), and an extraordinarily late bird at Conowingo on Nov. 30 (Blom). As usual Forster's Terns were much more widespread in large numbers with 350 at Sandy Point on Aug. 3 (M. O'Brien), 65 in DC on Aug. 6 (Czaplak), 200 at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 13 (O'Briens), 750 at Eastern Neck on Aug. 22 (J. Gruber), 750 at Hart - Miller on Aug. 28 (Ringler +), 230 at Piscataway on Sept. 29 (Swarth), 270 at North Beach on Oct. 2 (Stasz), 300 at Swan Creek on Oct. 5 (J. Gruber), 150 at Conowingo on Oct. 22 and 75 there on Nov. 30 (Blom), 600 at Ocean City on Nov. 6 (Ringler +), and 130 at Hooper Island and 40 at Blackwater on Nov. 11 (H. Armistead). Other reports of interest were 14 at Ganey's Wharf in Caroline County on Aug. 19 (Engle), 2 inland at Loch Raven on Oct. 1 (Simon), 5 at Jug Bay on Nov. 9 (Mumford), 1 at Piscataway on Nov. 27 (Nistico), and 6 at Swan Point on Nov. 30 (J. Gruber). There were 127 Least Terns remaining at Big Bay Marsh on Aug. 4 (Walbeck, Vekasy) and the latest reported was 1 at Hart - Miller on Aug. 28 (Ringler +). Black Terns had one of the best seasons ever in the state with reports coming from all sections. Inland were 1 at North Branch on Aug. 20 (Simons, Twigg), 1 at Trout Run on Aug. 20 (Pope), 1 at Piney Run on Aug. 25 (Wright) and 2 there on Aug. 27 (Ringler, Wright), and 4 at Triadelphia on Aug. 28 (Solem, Farrell). On the Potomac there were 2 at Seneca on Aug. 6 (O'Briens) and birds in DC from Aug. 6 through Sept. 17 with 13 on Sept. 10 (Czaplak), and on the Patuxent there were 2 at Lyons Wharf in Calvert County on Aug. 15 (Stasz). In the bay there were 5 at Hart - Miller on Aug. 14 (Kaestner +) and 6 on Sept. 11 (Ringler +), 1 at Wilson Point on Sept. 3 (J. Gruber), 6 at Point Lookout on Sept. 6 (M. O'Brien), and 1 at North Beach on Sept. 11 (Stasz). At Ocean City there was 1 on Aug. 11 and 60 on Aug. 16 (Warfield), and 3 were at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 13 (O'Briens). There were 35 Black Skimmers remaining at Ocean City on Nov. 6 (Ringler +) and 3 on Nov. 26 (Davidson +).

*Doves, Cuckoos.* A White-winged Dove was photographed at PNAS on Nov. 4 (Rambo, Bryan). This third record for the state will be reported separately. A high

of 89 Mourning Doves at North Branch on Sept. 17 (Twigg) was the largest flock reported. Reports of migrant Black-billed Cuckoos were 1 at Damsite on Aug. 21 and Sept. 14 and 1 banded there on Sept. 16 (Grubers), 2 near South Point, Worcester County on Aug. 26 (M. O'Brien, Gough), 1 singing near Bowie on Sept. 1 (M. O'Brien), birds banded at Adventure on Sept. 5 and 28, 1 at Triadelphia on Sept. 10 and 18 (Atkinson, Magnusson), 1 heard at Morgan Run on Oct. 19 (Wright), and a very late 1 at Denton on Nov. 10 (Fletcher). The high count for Yellow-billed Cuckoos was 10 at St. Michaels on Sept. 22 (Reese); late individuals were 1 banded at Laurel Grove on Oct. 9 (Runkles) and 1 on Gilpin Point, Caroline County on Nov. 12 (Harvey).

*Owls Caprimulgids.* Young Common Barn-Owls were present in a nest at Mountain Lake Park through August (Pope). Another Barn-Owl was seen on Assateague on Nov. 26 along with a Long-eared Owl and a Northern Saw-whet Owl (P. O'Brien +). Harry Armistead noted 3 Barred Owls on Hooper Island on Nov. 11 and 5 Short-eared Owls at Elliott on Nov. 6. The only migrant Short-ear seen was at Hart - Miller on Oct. 30 (Ricciardi, Blom). Other Saw-whet Owls included 36 banded at Finzel from Oct. 13 through Nov. 27 with 5 on Oct. 29 plus the recapture of a bird banded at Green Bay, Wisconsin on Oct. 12, 1987. Rounding out the reports of Saw-whets were 1 at Beltsville on Nov. 2 (David Carr), 1 banded at Laurel on Nov. 15, and 1 in DC on Nov. 23 (Czaplak). High counts of Common Nighthawks were 26 at Cumberland on Aug. 18 (Twigg), 50 at Timonium on Aug. 24 (Walbeck), 74 at Triadelphia on Aug. 24 (Magnusson), 34 at Broadford Run on Aug. 27 (Skipper, Pope), 828 at Pinto Marsh on Aug. 28 (Simons), 20 at Mechanicsville on Aug. 31 (Runkles), 280 in DC on Sept. 1 (Czaplak), and 16 at West Ocean City on Sept. 13 (Warfield). Late nighthawks were 4 at Rising Sun on Sept. 20 (Fogleman), 1 in Charles County on Sept. 21 (Nistico), 1 in Howard County on Oct. 1 (Magnusson), 1 near Bellevue on Oct. 7 (H. Armistead), 1 near Park Hall, St. Marys County on Oct. 15 (Bryan), 1 over Rockville on Oct. 15 (Bob Augustine), and the exceptionally late birds of 1 in College Park on Nov. 3 (John Churchill), 3 in Baltimore on Nov. 7 (Bill Thompson), and an even later 1 in Baltimore on Nov. 25 (Dan Haft). The only reports of Chuck-will's-widows were 1 found dead at St. Michaels on Aug. 14 (Bob Sharp) and 2 heard at Damsite on Sept. 11 (Grubers). The last Whip-poor-wills were 1 at American Corner on Sept. 2 (Inez Wheatley), 1 at Point Lookout on Sept. 6 (M. O'Brien), 1 heard at Sparks in Baltimore County on Sept. 22 (Bob Dixon), and single birds banded at Damsite on Sept. 25 and 26.

*Swifts, Hummingbirds.* Best estimates of Chimney Swifts were 150 at Remington Farms on Aug. 5 (Grubers) and 2000 in DC on Sept. 1 (Czaplak). Czaplak also recorded late swifts with 1 in DC on Oct. 22 and 1 at Pennyfield on the next day. The only number of Ruby-throated Hummingbirds noted was 10 at Violet's Lock on Sept. 3 (M. O'Brien); late migrants were 1 netted at Broadford Run on Sept. 26, 1 banded at Damsite on Oct. 3, and 1 at Kinnard's Point in Kent County on Nov. 8 (Steve Hitchner). A Rufous Hummingbird appeared in the yard of Sam Pancake in Takoma Park on Nov. 9 and was seen by many through the end of the period. It was netted and banded (Kathy Klimkiewicz) and determined to be an immature male.

*Woodpeckers.* Sightings of Red-headed Woodpeckers that probably represent migrants were 2 at Lilypons on Sept. 11 (M. O'Brien), an adult on South Mountain in Washington County on Sept. 16 (Wilkinson), 2 at St. Michaels on Sept. 18 (Fred Snyder), 1 at Big Pool on Sept. 21 (Walbeck), 1 at Concord on Sept. 25 (W. Scudder), 1 immature at Pennyfield on Oct. 2 (Bjerke +), and 1 immature near Bellevue on



Oct. 23 (H. Armistead). A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker on Green Ridge on Sept. 4 (Simons) was exceptionally early for a migrant. High counts of Northern Flickers were 23 in DC on Sept. 17 and 60 at Remington Farms on Sept. 22 (Grubers). An intergrade flicker was banded at Damsite on Sept. 26.

*Flycatchers.* The only Olive-sided Flycatchers this fall were singles in DC on Aug. 19 (Czaplak), Pennyfield on Aug. 21-23 (Mary Ann Todd) and Point Lookout on Sept. 11 (Craig +). Estimates of Eastern Wood-Pewees in migration were 20 at Point Lookout on Sept. 6, and 15 at Summit Hall on Sept. 9 (M. O'Brien). Nuttle noted pewees feeding young in a nest at Greensboro on Sept. 7 and late migrants were 1 banded at Damsite on Oct. 8 and 1 at Pierce Mill in DC on Oct. 10 (Gough). Damsite took the honors for banding the most Yellow-bellied Flycatchers with 43 from Aug. 8 through Sept. 25. The earliest migrant Yellow-belly was 1 banded at PWRC on Aug. 5 and the latest was banded at Adventure on Sept. 26. A very late Acadian Flycatcher was banded at Adventure on Oct. 7. Alder Flycatchers are extremely difficult to identify in fall migration but these birds were reported: 1 at Point Lookout on Sept. 6 (M. O'Brien), 1 calling at Lilypons on Sept. 11 (M. O'Brien) and 1 calling at Pennyfield on Sept. 11 together with a calling Willow Flycatcher (Czaplak). The extremes on migrant "Traill's Flycatchers" were banded at PWRC on Aug. 2 and banded at Bristol on Sept. 24. The earliest Least Flycatcher was banded at PWRC on Aug. 18 and the latest was banded at Adventure on Sept. 30; 2 seen at Centennial Park on Sept. 5 (Atkinson) were a good find. Late November reports of Eastern Phoebe were of single birds at North Branch on the 25th (Simons +), in Howard County on the 27th (Magnusson, Chase), and at Denton on the 29th (Fletcher). All of these are probably trying to winter here. Late Great Crested Flycatchers were 1 at Pinto Marsh on Sept. 24 (Simons), in Charles County on Oct. 2 (Nistico), and banded at Damsite on Oct. 8. High counts of Eastern Kingbirds were 18 at Centennial Park on Aug. 8 (Solem, Farrell), 16 at the Easton sewage lagoons on Aug. 27 (M. O'Brien, Gough), and 25 at Point Lookout on Sept. 6 (M. O'Brien). Late departures for kingbirds included 1 at Eldersburg on Sept. 12 (Ringler), 1 at North Branch on Sept. 13 (Simons), 1 at Blackwalnut Point on Sept. 16 (Reese), and an exceptionally late individual in Howard County on Oct. 16 (Harvey).

*Swallows.* No large flocks of Purple Martins were reported; 22 at Courthouse Point WMA on Aug. 26 (Reese) and 40 at Tanyard on Aug. 29 (Engle) were the best. Late martins were 1 at Denton on Sept. 5 (Nuttle) and a very late 1 at Laurel Grove on Oct. 2 (Runkles). As usual there were plenty of Tree Swallows this fall with the biggest flocks being 600 at Remington Farms on Aug. 5 (Grubers), 1000 at Fairlee on Sept. 10 (J. Gruber, Jared Parks), 300 at Blackwalnut Point on Sept. 11 (Reese +), 1500 at Eastern Neck on Sept. 13 (J. Gruber), 100 at Jug Bay on Oct. 12 (Mumford), 1500 at Chestertown on Oct. 17 (Grubers), 300 at Point Lookout on Oct. 22 (Boxwell, Craig, Bishop), 550 at Blackwater on Oct. 23 (H. Armistead), and 1000 at Blackwalnut Point the same day (Reese). Locally late reports of Tree Swallows were 8 at Pinto on Oct. 21 (Simons), 10 at Ridgely on Oct. 28 (Scudder), 12 at Deal Island WMA on Nov. 6 (Ringler +), 1 at Piney Run on Nov. 8 (Ringler, Moretti), 1 at Deep Creek Lake on Nov. 11 (Ringler +), and 1 at Blair's Valley in Washington County on Nov. 13 (Ringler). The Grubers estimated 100 Northern Rough-winged Swallows at Remington Farms on Aug. 5, and the last migrants of the season were 2 at Pinto on Oct. 6 (Simons). High local counts of Bank Swallows were 1000 at Remington Farms on Aug. 5 (Grubers), 25 at Trout Run on Aug. 24 (Popel), 40 at Courthouse Point WMA on Aug. 26 (Reese), and 32 at North Branch on Sept. 4 (Twigg). Among the Cliff Swallows noted were 25 at Trout Run on Aug. 29 with 1



remaining on Sept. 13 (Pope), 1 in Howard County on Sept. 5 (Atkinson), 5 in DC on Sept. 8 (Czaplak), and a very late individual at Pinto on Sept. 25 (Simons). High counts of Barn Swallows were 250 at Remington Farms on Aug. 5 (Grubers), 120 at Trout Run on Aug. 24 (Pope), and 55 at Courthouse Point WMA on Aug. 26 (Reese); single late birds were at West Ocean City on Oct. 9 (Ringler +), North Branch on Oct. 11 (Simons), and Piscataway on the exceptional date of Nov. 24 (Jett).

*Corvids.* Jim Gruber's tallies of migrant Blue Jays were 26 at Rock Hall on Sept. 13, 600 there on Sept. 24, 275 on Oct. 1 and 400 on Oct. 5, 367 at Damsite on Sept. 23, and 300 at Matapeake on Sept. 28. Reese noted flights of 150 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 9 and 100 on Oct. 16 and 17. American Crow flocks included 200 at Tuckahoe S. P. on Sept. 20 (P. Gruber) and 1200 in Hoyes Run Valley in Garrett County on Nov. 11 (Ringler +). High estimates of Fish Crows were 2600 flying over Deal Island WMA at dusk on Nov. 6 (Ringler +), 850 in southern Dorchester County on Nov. 6 (H. Armistead +) and 500 between Clear Spring and Hagerstown in Washington County on Nov. 13 (Ringler). All the Common Raven reports were from expected localities: 2 at North Branch on Aug. 19 (Simons), 5 at Dan's Rock on Sept. 26 (Kiddy) and 2 at Point of Rocks, Sept. 20 through Nov. 25 (Warfield).

*Parids, Nuthatches, Creepers.* No Black-capped Chickadees were reported outside the breeding range this fall. Some observers commented on the relative abundance of the Tufted Titmouse this season and into the winter. The only hard evidence available to prove this are these notes from the migration route down the eastern side of the bay where Reese found 4 migrants at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 16 and the Grubers banded 29 migrants at Damsite, Oct. 8-24. Movements of otherwise sedentary species are rarely proven in this manner. Red-breasted Nuthatches were very scarce this fall with reports of small numbers scattered across the state; the earliest were 1 on Green Ridge on Aug. 13 (Simons) and 2 at Damsite on Aug. 21 (Grubers), and the most seen at one time were 5 on Assateague on Nov. 12 (Davidson, Wierenga). Single migrant White-breasted Nuthatches were at Damsite on Sept. 23 (Grubers) and St. Michaels on Sept. 25 (Reese). A Brown Creeper at Denton on Aug. 10 and Sept. 1 (Nuttie) was probably nesting locally; early migrants were 1 banded at Broadford Run on Sept. 7, and 1 seen at McKeldin on Sept. 12 (Ringler +).

*Wrens.* Carolina Wrens were observed hatching young at Denton on Sept. 12 (M. Parenteau). In Garrett County, where the species is just beginning its comeback after being wiped out more than a decade ago during a severe winter, 3 Carolina Wrens were at Mountain Lake Park on Sept. 27, 2 remaining through November (Pope), and 1 was at Alpine Village on Nov. 26 (Hammer +). November House Wrens were 1 banded near Stevenson on the 11th, and 1 seen near Seneca on the 15th (Ed Behr). Some very early Winter Wrens this fall were 1 banded at Damsite on Sept. 14, 1 at Centennial Park on Sept. 17 (Atkinson) and 1 banded at Mt. Nebo on Sept. 18; the best report was of 7 in DC on Oct. 7 (Czaplak). Sedge Wrens this season were 2 at Blackwater on Aug. 21 (Hammer, Steve Sanford), 1 at Deal Island WMA on Aug. 25 (Czaplak), 1 in Rock Creek Park, DC on Oct. 4 (Czaplak), and 1 on Assateague on Nov. 26 (P. O'Brien +). Late Marsh Wrens included singles in DC on Oct. 3 (Czaplak), Hughes Hollow on Oct. 4 (Bonham), and Hooper Island on Nov. 26 (Armisteads).

*Kinglets and Gnatcatchers.* The first migrant Golden-crowned Kinglet was at Broadford Run on Sept. 21 (Skipper, Pope), and high counts for the season were 20

in DC on Oct. 7 (Czaplak), 25 at Elk Neck on Oct. 9 (Fogleman), 30 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 9 (Reese +), 50 at Triadelphia on Oct. 10 (Atkinson), 30 at Jug Bay on Oct. 12 (Mumford), and 15 at Denton on Oct. 19 (Short). A very early Ruby-crowned Kinglet was at Lake Roland on Aug. 23 (Bohanan +); the next arrivals were 1 at Phoenix on Sept. 5 (Jenkins) and 1 at Blackwalnut Point on Sept. 11 (Reese +). High counts of Ruby-crowns were 20 in DC on Oct. 12 (Czaplak) and 75 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 30 (Reese +), and 1 leucistic bird was seen at Triadelphia on Oct. 22 (Magnusson). October 30 was a truly remarkable day for kinglets at Damsite, where the Grubers estimated thousands surrounding the banding station. They banded 101 Golden-crowns and 92 Ruby-crowns that day, but in addition, they removed from the nets and released without banding another 106 Golden-crowns and 212 Ruby-crowns. Late Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were 2 at Piney Run on Sept. 18 (Ringler), 1 at Broadford Run on Sept. 21 (Skipper, Pope), and 1 in Howard County on Oct. 1 (Atkinson).

*Thrushes.* Reports of flocking Eastern Bluebirds included 50 at Remington Farms on Sept. 22 (Grubers), 50 at Schooley Mill Park on Oct. 22 (Magnusson), 30 at Merkle WMA on Oct. 23 (Rhymer), 150 at Blackwalnut Point on Nov. 6 (Reese) and 75 on Hooper Island on Nov. 11 (H. Armistead). An early migrant Veery was banded at PWRC on Aug. 24. Michael O'Brien estimated 40 Veeries at Point Lookout on Sept. 6, and late birds were seen in Montgomery County on Oct. 4 (Bonham) and in DC on Oct. 5 (Czaplak). Early Gray-cheeked Thrushes were 2 at Rockville on Sept. 5 and 1 at Point Lookout on Sept. 6 (both M. O'Brien); 57 were banded at Adventure from Sept. 12 through Oct. 26 with a peak of 6 on Oct. 6. Other Gray-cheeks seen outside banding stations were 2 at Point Lookout on Sept. 11 (Craig), 2 in DC on Oct. 6 (Czaplak), and 1 at Triadelphia on Sept. 18 and 25 (Atkinson). Early and late Swainson's Thrushes were banded at Damsite, single birds on Aug. 21 and Oct. 30. Other early Swainson's were 1 at Rockville on Aug. 30 (M. O'Brien) and banded at PWRC on Aug. 31. High counts of birds away from banding stations were 16 in DC on Sept. 15 (Czaplak) and 25 at Blackwalnut Point on Sept. 16 (Reese). Another late Swainson's was in Howard County on Oct. 30 (Magnusson, Chase). The first migrant Hermit Thrush was banded at Mt. Nebo on Sept. 26; high counts for the season were 28 in DC on Oct. 20 (Czaplak) and 150 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 30 (Reese). Very late Wood Thrushes were banded at Damsite on Oct. 16, and seen in DC on Oct. 25 (Czaplak). High counts of migrating American Robins were 500 at Remington Farms on Sept. 18 (Grubers), 180 in DC on Oct. 6 (Czaplak), 1500 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 30 and Nov. 6 (Reese), 400 at Damsite on Nov. 6 (J. Gruber, Lanny Parks), and 570 on Hooper Island on Nov. 11 (H. Armistead).

*Mimids, Pipits.* Lingering Gray Catbirds were in Howard County on Nov. 23 (Magnusson) and at Blackwater on Nov. 26 (Armisteads). Late Brown Thrashers were in Howard County on Oct. 30 (Chestem) and at a feeder in Phoenix on Nov. 20 (Jenkins). Some of these birds probably attempted to winter locally. Water Pipits were generally scarce, with early reports of 2 at North Branch on Sept. 17 (Simons), 1 in DC on Sept. 29 (Czaplak), and 2 at Lilypons on Oct. 8 (John Churchill). The only sizeable flocks of pipits noted were 20 at Beltsville on Oct. 30 (David Carr), at least 50 at Bradenbaugh in October (Kirkwood), and 250 along New Design Road in Frederick County on Nov. 5 (Davidson, Wierenga).

*Waxwings, Shrikes.* Reports of migrant Cedar Waxwings began with 4 near Bellevue on Aug. 21 (H. Armistead) and continued with these large numbers: 100 at Broadford Run on Aug. 25 and 30 (Skipper, Pope), 200 at Damsite on Sept. 14

(Grubers), 302 banded at Adventure from Oct. 4 through Oct. 31 with 64 on Oct. 22, 900 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 30 (Reese +), 400 on Green Ridge on Nov. 8 (Simons) and 65 on Hooper Island on Nov. 11 (H. Armistead). The only reports of Loggerhead Shrikes were 1 at North Branch on Sept. 16 (Simons) and Sept. 27 (Twigg) and the resident bird at Lilypons (many observers).

**Vireos.** A White-eyed Vireo at Carey Run on Sept. 25 (Walbeck) was late there. A Solitary Vireo at Pinto Marsh on Aug. 26 (Simons) was exceptionally early, as the median arrival for the season was Sept. 22. The last Solitary was banded near Stevenson on Oct. 26. A Yellow-throated Vireo at Daniels on Oct. 1 (Atkinson) was one of the few ever reported in Maryland in that month. Notable Warbling Vireos were 6 at Violet's Lock on Sept. 3 (M. O'Brien), 1 banded at Mt. Nebo on Sept. 14 (very rare in Garrett County), 4 near Weverton on Sept. 15 (Blom), 1 at Triadelphia on Sept. 17 (Atkinson), a very late 1 at Elkton on Oct. 1 (Fogleman). All but one of the Philadelphia Vireos reported this season were compressed into a nine-day period: 1 at Piney Run on Sept. 10 (Ringler +), 1 at Triadelphia on Sept. 10 (Atkinson), 1 banded at PWRC on Sept. 10, 1 banded at Mt. Nebo on Sept. 11, 1 banded at Damsite on Sept. 11, 2 at Pennyfield on Sept. 11 (Czaplak), 1 at McKeldin on Sept. 12 (Ringler), 1 near Weverton on Sept. 15 (Blom), and 1 banded at Broadford Run on Sept. 18. The lone out-lying report was 1 at Rockville on the very late date of Oct. 23 (P. O'Brien). High counts of migrant Red-eyed Vireos were 20 at Daniels on Sept. 10 (Wright) and 30 at Blackwalnut Point on Sept. 11 and 16 (Reese +). Late individuals were in DC on Oct. 10 (Czaplak), in Howard County the same day (Atkinson), and banded at adventure on Oct. 13.

**Warblers.** An early Blue-winged Warbler was near Bellevue on Aug. 6 (H. Armistead) and a high of 6 was at Dameron, St. Marys County on Aug. 19 (Craig); late individuals were at Lake Roland on Sept. 20 (Walbeck, Mathilda Weiss), banded at Adventure on Sept. 24, and banded at Damsite on Sept. 25. The only reports of Golden-winged Warblers were a male at Herrington Manor on Aug. 7 (Pope), 1 banded at PWRC on Aug. 21, 1 in Howard County on Aug. 31 (Chestem), a female at Triadelphia on Sept. 2 (Magnusson), 1 at Bel Air on Sept. 5 (June Vaughn), and 1 banded at Adventure on Sept. 11. Czaplak found the rare hybrid Lawrence's Warbler in Rock Creek Park, DC on Sept. 13. Early Tennessee Warblers were 1 banded at Adventure on Aug. 19, 1 banded near Stevenson on Aug. 22, and 1 seen at Piney Run on Aug. 27 (Ringler). Damsite banded an impressive 141 Tennessees for the season from 17 on Aug. 31 through 1 on Oct. 16; other high counts were 15 at McKeldin on Sept. 12 (Ringler +) and 18 at Triadelphia on Sept. 17 (Atkinson). Other late Tennessees were 1 at Daniels on Oct. 11 (Wright), 1 at the Pickall Area of Patapsco Valley SP on Oct. 16 (Wilkinson), and 1 in DC on Oct. 19 (Czaplak). Reports of the rare Orange-crowned Warbler were single birds at Pinto Marsh on Sept. 30 (Simons), North Branch on Oct. 5 (Twigg), banded near Stevenson on Oct. 19, banded at PWRC on Oct. 19, at Broadford Run on Oct. 20 (Pope), in Rock Creek Park on Oct. 20-29 (Gough, Czaplak), and at Rockville on Oct. 23 (P. O'Brien). Early Nashville Warblers were 1 at Lake Roland on Aug. 23 (Bohanan +) and 1 at Pinto Marsh on Aug. 26 (Simons); late birds were 1 banded at Broadford Run on Oct. 13, 1 at Piscataway on Oct. 15 (Nistico), 1 in Rock Creek Park, DC on Nov. 1 (Gough), and 1 very late bird on Assateague on Nov. 12 (Davidson, Wierenga).

A late Northern Parula was banded at PWRC on Oct. 18. The first notes of migrating Yellow Warblers were 1 at Damsite on Aug. 1 (Grubers) and 2 near Bellevue on Aug. 6 (H. Armistead), and a late bird was at Pinto Marsh on Oct. 10.

(Simons). Early Chestnut-sided Warblers were 1 banded at PWRC and 1 seen at Nassawango Furnace on Aug. 22 (Hammer, Steve Sanford); Reese noted the high count of 15 at Blackwalnut Point on Aug. 31, and a late bird was in Howard County on Oct. 4 (Solem). After early Magnolia Warbler arrivals of 1 in DC on Aug. 19 (Czaplak) and 2 at Liberty Reservoir on Aug. 23 (Wright) there were 20 at Point Lookout on Sept. 6 (M. O'Brien), 14 at Triadelphia on Sept. 18 (Atkinson) and 7 at North Branch on Oct. 5 (Twigg); late singles were at Woodstock on Oct. 12 (Wilkinson) and banded at Damsite on Oct. 17. Early Cape May Warblers were 1 at North Branch on Aug. 19 (Simons) and 1 banded at Damsite on Aug. 24; 13 were banded at Broadford Run on Sept. 18, a late bird was seen there on Oct. 29 (Skipper, Pope), and another late bird was at Bryans Road on Oct. 19 (Nistico). Black-throated Blue Warblers started with 1 banded at Adventure on Aug. 19 and 1 banded near Stevenson the same day. Damsite banded 194 Black-throated Blues from 16 on Aug. 31 through 1 on Oct. 30. Reese found 8 at Blackwalnut Point on Aug. 31, Michael O'Brien saw 10 at Point Lookout on Sept. 6, and Czaplak found 10 in DC on Oct. 4. Yellow-rumped Warblers arrived remarkably early throughout the state, beginning with 1 on Green Ridge on Sept. 5 (Simons), 1 at Blackwalnut Point on Sept. 12 (Reese), 1 banded at Broadford Run on Sept. 14, 1 banded at Damsite the same day, 1 in Howard County on Sept. 16 (Chestem), and 1 at Piney Run on Sept. 18 (Ringler). High counts of Yellow-rumps were 50 at Trout Run on Oct. 4 (Pope), 100 at Centennial Park on Oct. 8 (Swift, Solem), 1000 on Assateague on Oct. 10 (P. O'Brien), 125 at the U. of M. Central Farm on Oct. 16 (Atkinson), and 150 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 30 (Reese). Late in Garrett County were 2 Yellow-rumps at Broadford Reservoir on Nov. 11 (Ringler, Simons). Early Black-throated Green Warblers were 1 at Blackwalnut Point on Aug. 19 (Reese) and 1 at Morgan Run on Aug. 25 (Wright); late birds were 1 at Cumberland on Oct. 17 (Simons) and 1 in Howard County on Oct. 18 (Chestem). Late Blackburnian Warblers were 1 in Charles County on Oct. 2 (Nistico) and 1 at Pinto Marsh on Oct. 7 (Twigg).

September reports of Yellow-throated Warblers were 1 on Green Ridge on the 2nd (Simons), 1 at McKeldin on the 12th (Ringler +), and 3 near Weverton on the 15th (Blom). High counts of Pine Warblers were 18 at Blackwalnut Point on Aug. 28 (Reese) and 25 at Laurel Grove on Sept. 25 (Runkles); locally late individuals were at Big Pool on Oct. 6 (Walbeck, Brinker), in Howard County on Oct. 8 (Atkinson), at Eyer's Valley in Frederick County on Oct. 8 (Wilkinson), and at Georgetown Reservoir on Oct. 16 (Hilton). Late Prairie Warblers were 1 in Howard County on Oct. 2 (Atkinson) and 1 banded near Stevenson on Oct. 6. Extraordinarily early was a western Palm Warbler banded at Broadford Run on Aug. 30. Also early were 2 westerns at Point Lookout on Sept. 6 (M. O'Brien). High numbers of Palms were 8 at Point Lookout on Sept. 11 (Boxwell, Craig, Bishop), 5 at North Branch on Oct. 5 (Twigg), 8 at Pinto Marsh on Oct. 8 (Simons), 5 at Centennial Park on Oct. 8 (Swift, Solem), 25 westerns at Trout Run on Oct. 9 (Pope), 8 on Assateague on Oct. 9 (Ringler +), 6 banded near Stevenson on Oct. 26, and 4 yellow Palms at Hart-Miller on Oct. 30 (Ringler +). Other Palms on Oct. 30 were 1 in Howard County (Chase) and 1 yellow banded at Damsite. The latest Palms were 3 on Assateague on Nov. 12 (Davidson, Wierenga).

An early Bay-breasted Warbler was at Lake Roland on Aug. 23 (Bohanan +), and high counts were 15 at Triadelphia on Sept. 11 (Atkinson) and 12 at McKeldin on Sept. 12 (Ringler +). Early Blackpoll Warblers were 2 at Blackwalnut Point on Aug. 31 (Reese), 1 banded at Damsite the same day, 1 at North Branch on Sept. 3 (Kiddy), and 1 near Taneytown on Sept. 3 (Ringler, Jerry O'Malley). Late Blackpolls were 1 at the U. of M. Central Farm on Oct. 23 (Atkinson) and 1 banded at



Damsite on Oct. 24. Late reports of Cerulean Warblers were 1 on Green Ridge on Sept. 11 (Simons) and 1 in Howard County on Sept. 14 (Chestem). The first reported migrant Black-and-white Warbler was at Denton on Aug. 9 (Fletcher); Michael O'Brien had the highest tally with 40 at Point Lookout on Sept. 6. The first migrant American Redstarts were 1 banded near Stevenson on Aug. 2, 1 near Bellevue on Aug. 6 (H. Armistead) and 1 banded at Broadford Run on Aug. 6. Michael O'Brien estimated a horde of 150 redstarts at Point Lookout on Sept. 6 and Reese estimated 50 at Blackwalnut Point on Sept. 11. The only September report of Prothonotary Warbler was of 1 near Crownsville on Sept. 3 (Wilkinson + ). Migrant Worm-eating Warblers were 1 banded at Laurel on Aug. 13, 1 banded near Stevenson on Aug. 17, and 1 in DC on Aug. 19 (Czaplak); the latest reports were of 1 banded at Damsite on Sept. 10 and 1 at Triadelphia on Sept. 11 (Atkinson).

The first migrant Ovenbirds were 1 banded at Laurel on Aug. 6 and 1 banded at Damsite on Aug. 8. Late Ovenbirds were 1 banded at Adventure on Oct. 26, 1 near Schooley Mill Park on Nov. 6 (Magnusson, Chase), and 1 at Denton on Nov. 8 (Essie Pepper). The first Northern Waterthrushes were 1 at Point Lookout on Aug. 10 (Nistico) and 1 at Blackwater on Aug. 13 (M. O'Brien); late birds were 1 banded at Damsite on Oct. 2 and 1 seen at U. of M. Central Farm on Oct. 13 (Solem, Holmes). The latest Kentucky Warblers were 1 at the Pickall Area of Patapsco Valley SP in Baltimore County on Sept. 11 (Wilkinson), 1 banded at Laurel on Sept. 13, and 1 at Greensboro on the exceptional date of Sept. 23 (Hewitt). An early Connecticut Warbler was banded at Adventure on Aug. 25. Sightings of Connecticut's outside banding stations were 1 in Gwynns Falls Park in Baltimore on Sept. 10 (Hammer + ), 1 at Sycamore Landing on Sept. 17 (Marie Plante, Judy Bromley), 1 at Carey Run on Sept. 22 (Walbeck), 1 at Piney Run on Sept. 24 (Wilkinson), and 1 in DC on Oct. 1 (Czaplak). Mourning Warblers began with an early 1 banded near Stevenson on Aug. 11. Other sightings outside banding stations were 1 at Pinto Marsh on Aug. 26 (Simons), 1 near Taneytown on Sept. 3 (Ringler, Jerry O'Malley), 1 at Big Branch, Howard County on Sept. 17 (Atkinson), 1 at Sycamore Landing on Oct. 2 and 1 in DC on Oct. 4 and 7 (both Czaplak), and 1 in Columbia on Oct. 10 (Atkinson).

Reese estimated 40 Common Yellowthroats at Blackwalnut Point on Sept. 11, and November sightings of this species were 1 in Howard County on the 19th (Farrell), 1 at Cumberland on the 25th (Simons, Hammer + ), and 1 at Cove Point on the 25th (Stasz, Holmes). The last Hooded Warbler reported was at Triadelphia on Sept. 18 (Atkinson). Early Wilson's Warblers were 1 at Finksburg on Aug. 23 (Wright) and 1 banded at Damsite on Aug. 26; and late birds were 1 at Trout Run on Oct. 4 (Pope) and 1 at Loch Raven on Oct. 19 (Wheeler). Early Canada Warblers were banded at PWRC on Aug. 8 and Damsite the next day. October reports of Yellow-breasted Chats were 1 at Woodlawn in Baltimore County on the 1st (Wilkinson), 1 banded at Adventure on the 11th, 1 banded at Damsite on the 17th, and 1 in Howard County on the 20th (Farrell). All of these were surpassed by the 1 at Mt. Pleasant in DC on Nov. 27 (Diane Kane), which probably intended to spend the winter.

*Tanagers, Cardinaline Finches.* Single Summer Tanagers were banded at Damsite on Aug. 26 and Sept. 2, and a late Scarlet Tanager was banded near Stevenson on Oct. 14. The first migrant Rose-breasted Grosbeak was 1 banded at Broadford Run on Aug. 21, where 7 were seen on Aug. 30 (Skipper, Pope). Late Rose-breasteds were 1 at Rising Sun on Oct. 9 (Fogleman), 1 at Triadelphia on Oct. 10 (Atkinson), and 1 in DC on Oct. 11 (Czaplak). Some very late Blue Grosbeaks



were found, with 1 at North Branch on Sept. 11 (Kiddy, Twigg), 1 at Jug Bay on Sept. 21 (Mumford, Beaton), 5 at Tuckahoe on Oct. 1 (Nuttie), 2 near Bellevue on Oct. 10 (H. Armistead), and 1 at Centennial Park on Oct. 27 (Farrell). High counts of Indigo Buntings were made on Sept. 2 with 20 at Broadford Run (Skipper, Pope) and 25 at Rockville (M. O'Brien). A late Indigo was banded near Stevenson on Oct. 26. In the escape category is the Red-crested Cardinal seen at Gambrills in Anne Arundel County on Oct. 23 (John Nicholson).

*Sparrows.* The first reported American Tree Sparrows were 2 at Pinto Marsh on Oct. 30 (Simons) and 6 in the Darnestown/Poolesville area on Nov. 6 (Don Simonson). In Calvert County, Stasz and Holmes found single Tree Sparrows on Nov. 25 at God's Grace Point and Cove Point. High counts of Chipping Sparrows were 26 at Dan's Rock on Sept. 11 (Twigg) and 25 at Loch Raven on Oct. 15 (Blom), and the latest migrant reported was at Bryans Road on Nov. 15 (Nistico). Clay-colored Sparrows are being reported with greater frequency and this fall an immature on Assateague on Oct. 10 (P. O'Brien), an immature at Loch Raven on Oct. 15 (Blom), and 1 at Georgetown Reservoir on Oct. 19 (Czaplak) were noted. Farrell estimated 100 Field Sparrows at Columbia on Oct. 9 during the peak of the species' migration. The following migrant Vesper Sparrows were seen: 3 near Chestertown on Sept. 28 (Grubers), 1 in DC on Oct. 20 (Czaplak), 2 at Antietam on Oct. 22 (Ringler +), 2 at Schooley Mill Park on Oct. 22 and 3 there the next day (Magnusson, Chase), 1 banded near Stevenson on Oct. 25 and 26, 1 at Hart - Miller on Oct. 30 (Ringler +), and 1 on Hooper Island on Nov. 11 (H. Armistead). Mark Wallace found the rare Lark Sparrow on Oct. 12 at Clarksville in Howard County. Notable migrant Savannah Sparrows included 3 at North Branch on Sept. 16 (Simons), 30 at Trout Run on Sept. 17 (Pope), 2 at Remington Farms on Sept. 18 (Grubers), and 25 at the U. of M. Central Farm on Oct. 16 (Atkinson). The last of the local Grasshopper Sparrows seen were 2 at Liberty Reservoir on Aug. 20 (Ringler), and the only migrant reported was 1 at Centennial Park on Oct. 8 (Atkinson). Mark Wright discovered at least 3 Henslow's Sparrows at Morgan Run, Aug. 4-25, for a rare Piedmont breeding record. It was a good fall for finding Sharp-tailed Sparrows of the Nelson's race. This inland subspecies is a rare migrant here. Single birds were at Pinto Marsh on Sept. 30 (Simons), banded at Broadford Run on Oct. 1, banded at Adventure on Oct. 3, and seen at the U. of M. Central Farm on Oct. 9-10 (Atkinson). The only Seaside Sparrow report was 1 at Hooper Island on Nov. 11 (H. Armistead).

Early Fox Sparrows were prominent in mid October with 1 at Colesville in Montgomery County on Oct. 15 (Norm Saunders), 1 in Howard County on Oct. 16 (Farrell), 1 banded at Mt. Nebo on Oct. 17, 1 in DC on Oct. 20 (Czaplak), 1 banded at Laurel on Oct. 20, and 1 banded at Damsite on Oct. 22. High counts of migrating Song Sparrows were 66 in DC on Oct. 20 (Czaplak) and 300 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 30 (Reese). As usual the Broadford Run station banded the most Lincoln's Sparrows with 44 from Sept. 14 through Oct. 20. Local high counts of Lincoln's Sparrows were 5 at Pinto Marsh on Oct. 8 (Simons), 2 at Centennial Park on Oct. 9 (Atkinson), and 4 in DC on Oct. 13 (Czaplak), with the latest being 1 banded at Adventure on Oct. 29. High counts of Swamp Sparrows were 24 at Pennyfield on Oct. 23 (Czaplak), 43 at U. of M. Central Farm on Oct. 23 (Atkinson), and 100 at Jug Bay on Nov. 23 (Mumford).

Some very early White-throated Sparrows appeared in the state on Sept. 5 at Tuckahoe (Nuttie), Sept. 11 at Denton (Knotts), banded at PWRC on Sept. 17, and at Triadelphia on Sept. 18 (Atkinson). High counts of migrant White-throats were 100 at Schooley Mill Park on Oct. 23 (Chase) and 200 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct.

30 (Reese). White-crowned Sparrows also made an early showing with 1 banded at Mt. Nebo on Sept. 26, 1 at Remington Farms on Sept. 28 (Grubers), and 2 at North Branch on Sept. 29 (Simons). High counts of White-crowns were 20 at Trout Run on Oct. 9 (Pope) and 7 at Rising Sun on Nov. 6 (Fogleman). Dark-eyed Juncos also joined the early arrival parade with 2 at Denton on Sept. 11 (Nuttle), 1 banded at PWRC on Sept. 19, and 1 at a feeder in Bozman on Sept. 21 (Evelen Keane). High counts of juncos were 700 at Damsite on Oct. 30 (Grubers) and 400 at Millington WMA on Nov. 26 (J. Gruber).

*Longspurs, Buntings.* The only Lapland Longspur reports came from the traditional New Design Road area beginning with 4 on Nov. 5 (Davidson, Wierenga) and continuing into the winter. Snow Buntings began with a very early 2 at Hart - Miller on Oct. 16 (Ringle + ) and other reports along the bay were 1 at Sandy Point on Nov. 3 (Davidson) with 7 there on Nov. 19 (Wierenga + ), 7 at Eastern Neck on Nov. 5 and 3 at Rock Hall on Nov. 30 (both J. Gruber) and, on the coast, several on Assateague on Nov. 12 (Davidson, Wierenga). Unusual inland were 1 at Loch Raven on Nov. 3 and 11 (Simon), 1 at Finzel on Nov. 9 + (Joan McKearnan + ), and 1 at St. Timothy's on Nov. 16 (Ross + ).

*Icterines.* Early Bobolinks included 7 at Morgan Run on Aug. 8 (Ringle) and 7 at North Branch on Aug. 21 (Simons). High counts of Bobolinks were hundreds over West Ocean City on Aug. 24 (Warfield), 250 at Blackwater on Aug. 26 (M. O'Brien, Gough), 50 at Point Lookout on Aug. 27 (Davidson), 200 at Tanyard on Sept. 3 (Engle), and 100 near Bellevue on Sept. 6 (H. Armistead); late birds were 1 in DC on Oct. 4 (Czaplak) and 4 at Ridgely on Oct. 18 (Scudder). Czaplak noted a migrant Eastern Meadowlark in DC on Oct. 13. A female Yellow-headed Blackbird was found at Blackwater on the early date of Aug. 13 (M. O'Brien). Rusty Blackbirds arrived early and in good numbers, with the first at Broadford Run on Oct. 6 and 200 there on Oct. 27 (Pope, Skipper), Pinto Marsh on Oct. 8 (Simons, Kiddy), PWRC on Oct. 19 (Martin), 500 at Damsite on Oct. 23 (Grubers), and 40 at Rising Sun on Nov. 18 (Fogleman). High counts of Common Grackles included 10,000 at Remington Farms on Aug. 5 (Grubers), 600 at Trout Run on Aug. 22 (Pope), and 2000 at Cumberland on Sept. 21 (Simons). High counts of Brown-headed Cowbirds were 500 at Trout Run on Sept. 5 (Skipper, Pope), 1000 at Blackwater on Oct. 23 (H. Armistead), and 1200 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 30 (Reese). Late Orchard Orioles were 1 near Bellevue on Aug. 27 (H. Armistead) and 5 banded at Damsite on Sept. 1. High counts of migrating Northern Orioles were 8 near Bellevue on Sept. 6 (H. Armistead), 12 at Point Lookout on Sept. 6 (M. O'Brien), and 25 at Blackwalnut Point on Sept. 12 (Reese); late individuals were at Tuckahoe on Oct. 1 (Nuttle), Damsite on Oct. 16 (Floyd Parks), banded at PWRC on Oct. 20, and at Cove Point on Nov. 25 (Stasz, Holmes).

*Fringillids.* Northern finches made themselves very scarce in the state this fall. Even the Purple Finch, which is regularly much more common, had a maximum count of only 12 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 30 (Reese) after the first migrants were banded at Broadford Run on Sept. 9. House Finches continued their usual fall migration abundance along the eastern side of the bay with estimates of 300 at Rock Hall on Oct. 7 (J. Gruber), 700 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 30 (Reese), 500 at Damsite on Oct. 30 (Grubers), 700 near Rock Hall on Nov. 7 (J. Gruber) and 150 in southern Dorchester County on Nov. 26 (Armisteads). The only reports of Pine Siskins were 13 at a feeder in Salisbury on Nov. 8 (Don Broderick) and 1 at Pope's feeder in Mountain Lake Park on Nov. 19 and 27. High counts of American Goldfinches were 600 at Blackwalnut Point on Oct. 30 (Reese), 40 in DC on Nov. 3

(Czaplak), and 130 on Hooper Island on Nov. 11 (H. Armistead). Evening Grosbeaks had a bizarre distribution this fall with the only reports being 87 at a feeder in Rock Hall on Nov. 4 (J. Gruber) and 1 at Skipper's feeder at Bray Hill on Nov. 29.

6272 Pinyon Pine Court, Eldersburg, Md. 21784

## BALD EAGLE FEEDING AT BRIGHTON DAM

MARTHA CHESTEM

At noon on January 4, 1988 I stopped at Brighton Dam on the Howard/Montgomery County line to check the birds on Triadelphia Reservoir. There was no wind, the sun was shining, it was about 27° F., and two inches of snow were on the ground. At first glance there seemed to be about 30 Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*) and six Herring Gulls (*L. argentatus*) scattered about the reservoir. Walking onto the dam I found a couple of American Black Ducks (*Anas rubripes*) and a Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*). As I was carrying only binoculars I returned to the car for my spotting scope.

Birds were hidden in the more protected coves of the reservoir, and they began appearing slowly over the next few minutes. Twelve more American Black Ducks appeared, as well as nine Red-breasted Mergansers (*Mergus serrator*), when I noticed a merganser that showed considerable white in the plumage. Getting the bird in the scope I could see it was a male Common Merganser (*M. merganser*). I had all three mergansers in view, and before long three Buffleheads (*Bucephala albeola*) and small flocks of Mallards (*A. platyrhynchos*) joined the growing group of waterfowl in the middle of the lake.

Suddenly the gulls took to the air. I had not seen anything that should have disturbed them, but I was using the scope at the time and might have missed something. A few of the ducks followed the gulls down the reservoir. Scanning for the cause of the disturbance, I located an immature Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) on a spit of land quite a distance away. It was feeding on something that I was never able to identify. I watched the eagle tear at the carcass for the next 45 minutes. I could see the yellow legs, the large bill, and the dark brown plumage with a pale, streaked belly.

While the eagle was busy with its meal a flock of 500-800 Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis*) flew in and landed behind the spit. A few more American Black Ducks also flew in, and with them was a pair of American Wigeon (*A. americana*). I marveled that a reservoir that had seemed so lifeless when I had first arrived had become such a terrific scene.

I tried to outwait the eagle, hoping to see it fly, but it remained on the ground for the entire 45 minutes. As time passed, it rested more and ate less, and seemed to move around what may have been a long black stick. Several crows seemed to be waiting for their turn at the remains. By the time I left, almost all the ducks were out of sight again, and all that remained were the geese, the eagle, the crows, and the gulls.

10850 Faulkner Ridge Circle, Columbia, MD 21044

## WOOD DUCKS FEEDING ON FLOWERS OF WILDRICE

BROOKE MEANLEY

Wildrice (*Zizania aquatica*) of the Patuxent fresh tidal river marsh blooms in late July and August. During that period the bright yellow stamens of the plant are fed upon by Wood Ducks (*Aix sponsa*) and Red-winged Blackbirds (*Agelaius phoeniceus*).

On August 9 and 12, 1988, from a blind at the Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary, Anne Arundel County, Maryland, I observed a female Wood Duck with brood of six young feeding on the stamens of Wildrice floating in a tidal creek that threads the marsh. At the time of my observations, I had not known of such feeding by Wood Ducks, but have since noted that C. E. Chambliss mentioned this feeding behavior in his publication Wild Rice (1922, U.S.D.A. Circular 229).

In the late 1950s, on the Patuxent marsh, I noticed that when Red-winged Blackbirds were perched on Wildrice they occasionally fed on the staminate flowers. The field observations were later confirmed by stomach examinations (B. Meanley, Late-Summer Food of the Red-winged Blackbird in a Fresh Tidal River Marsh, *Wilson Bulletin*, 1961, 73:36-40).

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## BOWIE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT, 1982

*The 1982 Bowie Christmas Bird Count, sponsored by the Prince Georges Audubon Society, was never submitted to American Birds. Paul Jung was able to track down the original data, which are published here for the first time to maintain continuity of the Bowie count. Bowie Christmas Counts for 1940-41 and 1943-45 were published in Supplements to Audubon Magazine, 1946 in Audubon Field Notes, 1947-48 in American Midland Naturalist (47:281-282), and 1972-81 and 1983-88 in American Birds—Ed.*

December 26, 1982 was overcast throughout; 64 observers took to the field in 45 parties, and 2 other observers watched feeders. Party-hours totaled 360, with 282 on foot and 78 by car, plus an additional 2 hours at feeders and 9 hours owling. Party-miles totaled 731, with 267 on foot and 464 by car. The temperature ranged from 58° to 68° and the wind was WNW at 12-20 m.p.h. Fresh water was open and the wild food crop was described as good. Counters were in the field from 4:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The count circle was unchanged from previous years.

The tally for the count was: Pied-billed Grebe 3, Great Blue Heron 15, Tundra Swan 106, Canada Goose 1328, Wood Duck 4, Green-winged Teal 1, American Black Duck 39, Mallard 288, Gadwall 2, Ring-necked Duck 106, Lesser Scaup 2, Common Goldeneye 1, Bufflehead 5, Hooded Merganser 91, Black Vulture 18, Turkey Vulture 126, Bald Eagle 4 (3 adults and 1 immature), Northern Harrier 4, Sharp-shinned Hawk 21, Cooper's Hawk 1, Red-shouldered Hawk 63, Red-tailed Hawk 37, American Kestrel 53, Merlin 1 (fourth consecutive winter), Ring-necked Pheasant 1 (probably wild), Northern Bobwhite 100, American Coot 2, Killdeer 28,

Common Snipe 6, American Woodcock 2, Ring-billed Gull 1926, Herring Gull 1039, Great Black-backed Gull 33, Rock Dove 1300, Mourning Dove 1521, Eastern Screech-Owl 1, Great Horned Owl 8, Barred Owl 9, Belted Kingfisher 11, Red-bellied Woodpecker 326, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 37, Downy Woodpecker 444, Hairy Woodpecker 106, Northern Flicker 655, Pileated Woodpecker 52, Eastern Phoebe 5, Horned Lark 12, Blue Jay 781, American Crow 4314, Fish Crow 337, Carolina Chickadee 1873, Tufted Titmouse 698, Red-breasted Nuthatch 17, White-breasted Nuthatch 161, Brown Creeper 121, Carolina Wren 191 (low), Winter Wren 24, Golden-crowned Kinglet 459, Ruby-crowned Kinglet 26, Eastern Bluebird 394, Hermit Thrush 36, American Robin 402, Gray Catbird 3, Northern Mockingbird 523, Brown Thrasher 4, Water Pipit 22, Cedar Waxwing 238, European Starling 13,842, Yellow-rumped Warbler 391, Common Yellowthroat 2, Northern Cardinal 1,104 (low), Rufous-sided Towhee 40 (low), American Tree Sparrow 29 (low), Chipping Sparrow 3, Field Sparrow 419 (low), Savannah Sparrow 14, Fox Sparrow 8, Song Sparrow 881 (low), Swamp Sparrow 89 (low), White-throated Sparrow 3,307 (low), White-crowned Sparrow 37, Dark-eyed Junco 3,570 (low), Red-winged Blackbird 7,528, Eastern Meadowlark 64, Rusty Blackbird 2, Common Grackle 2,425, Brown-headed Cowbird 1,911, Purple Finch 549, House Finch 697, Pine Siskin 1 (no details), American Goldfinch 642, Evening Grosbeak 1 (no details), House Sparrow 1,143. This is a total of 93 species and 59,266 individuals. In addition, seen in the area during the week of the count but not on count day was a Northern Saw-whet Owl.

Participants in the count were Dan Audet, Jerry Barnard, Marty Barron, Maureen Blades, Rick Boulin, Danny Bystrak, Nancy Csider, Jim Cubie, Lyle & Paul Denit, Rich Dolesh, Barbara Dowell, Sam Droege, Chuck Dupree, Fred Fallon, Greg Ferensic, Tony Futcher, Carol Ghebelian, Ellen Gizzarelli, Betty & Luther Goldman, John Gregoire, Dave & Don Henderson, Andrew Hicks, Marshall Howe, Bo Huber, David Hussey, George & Jean Jonkel, Emily Joyce, Paul & Scott Jung, Kathleen Klimkiewicz, Wayne Klockner, Judith Leach, Paul Leifer, Manuel Lerda, Lucy, Nancy & Stuart MacClintock, Elwood Martin, Debbie Mignogno, Paul Nistico, Paul Opler, Ben Pagac, Robert Patterson (compiler), Matthew Perry, Chandler Robbins, Jay Sheppard, Michael Sorensen, Wanda Spencer, Ray Stanton, Charles Swift, Steve Thompson, John Vance, Evelyn & Marianne Walch, Carol Waldman, Bill Wendell, Jack Wennerstrom, Paul Wenninger, Robert Whitcomb, Hal Wierenga, Charles Williams, and Howard Youth.

## BOOK REVIEW

**CATESBY'S BIRDS OF COLONIAL AMERICA.** Includes text: the Natural History of North Carolina, Florida, and the Bahama Islands by Mark Catesby. Edited by Alan Feduccia. Foreword by Russell W. Peterson. 1985. Univ. of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill. 20 color plates, 109 black-and-white plates, bibliography, 176 p. \$29.95.

Alan Feduccia's thoughtful editing makes *Natural History* by Mark Catesby more accessible to all those who are interested in pre-Audubon studies of birds in the New World. Feduccia is a highly respected ornithologist author of the acclaimed work on the archeology of birds, *The Age of Birds*. His experience makes him the ideal person to edit Catesby. My own introduction to Catesby's original work came when the Baltimore Chapter of the Maryland Ornithological Society visited the George Peabody Library to see Audubon's *Birds of America*. The



librarian had also put on display some other early ornithological books, including an edition of Catesby's *Natural History*. The striking colors and the lively poses made a lasting impression. In the introduction, Feduccia credits Catesby with being the first to draw a variety of plants and animals grouped on a single plate. This practice was carried on later by Audubon and others. The 129 plates make me wish I could have seen the land as Catesby saw it. Much of the continent was barely altered from its pre-Columbian state by his time. Even so, the hand of man was evident in some places. Catesby reported "continued smoke or a natural thickness of the air" resulting from the custom of burning forests by settlers and noted that, "the smoke of tar-kilns" may cause strangers to "have an ill opinion of the air of Carolina."

My only disappointment is that only 20 plates were reproduced in color. I assume the cost of reproducing the other 109 would have been prohibitive. There is no disappointment in the rest of the book. With each plate, Catesby's original remarks are included, and they have been "lightly edited" for readability and then "translated" using current nomenclature and systematics.

I like having this book on my shelf. It precludes the need to go all the way to the Peabody Library to see Catesby's original, though it also makes one want to see the original in the light of the insights provided by Alan Feduccia.

— Joy Wheeler.

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